

EXCLUSIVE!! G. I. JOE'S PEN PALS

10¢

G.I. Joe

ANC

**MAY
NO. 31**



**"Get a Horse" and ...
LOOK AT HIS TEETH**

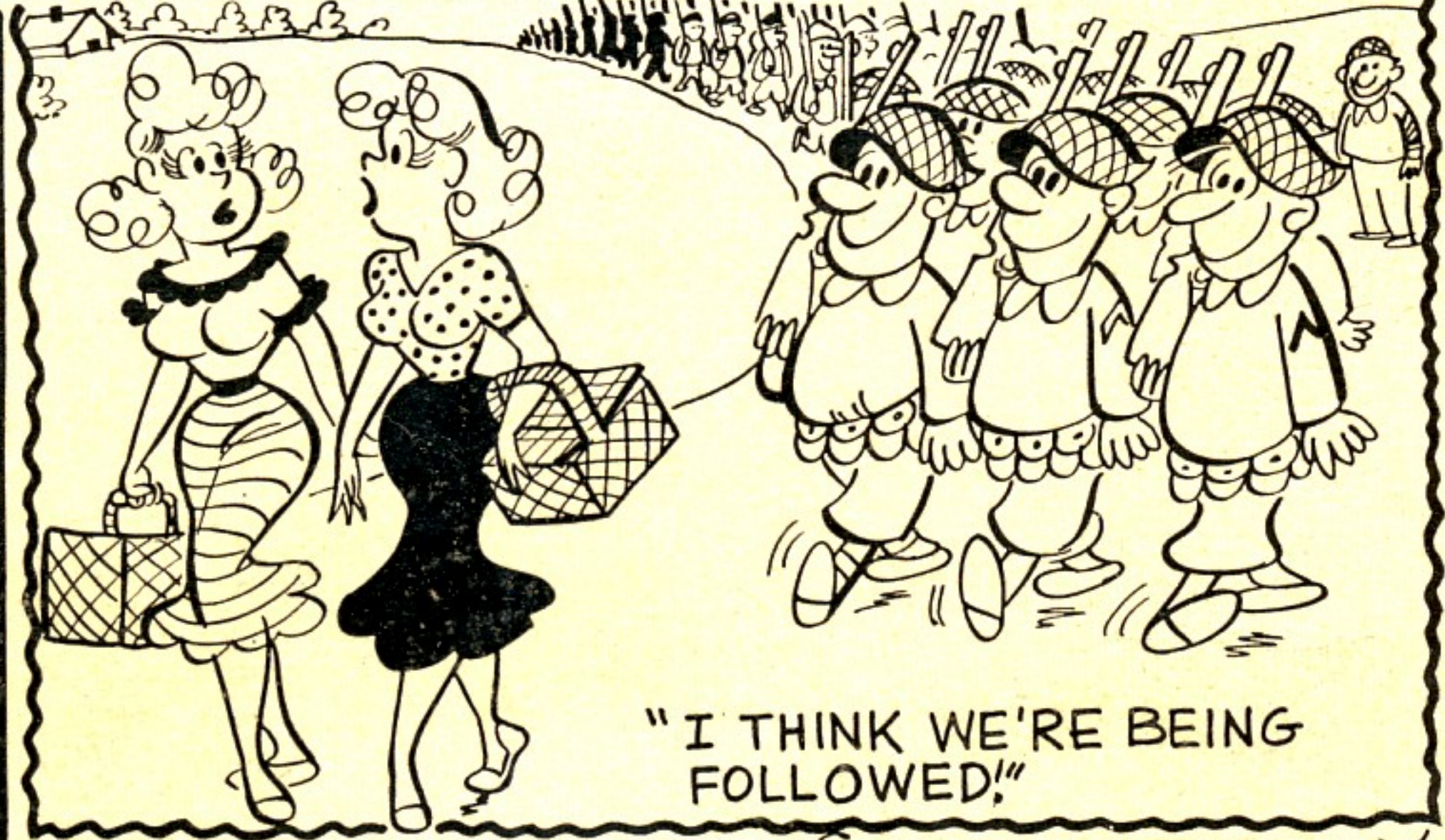
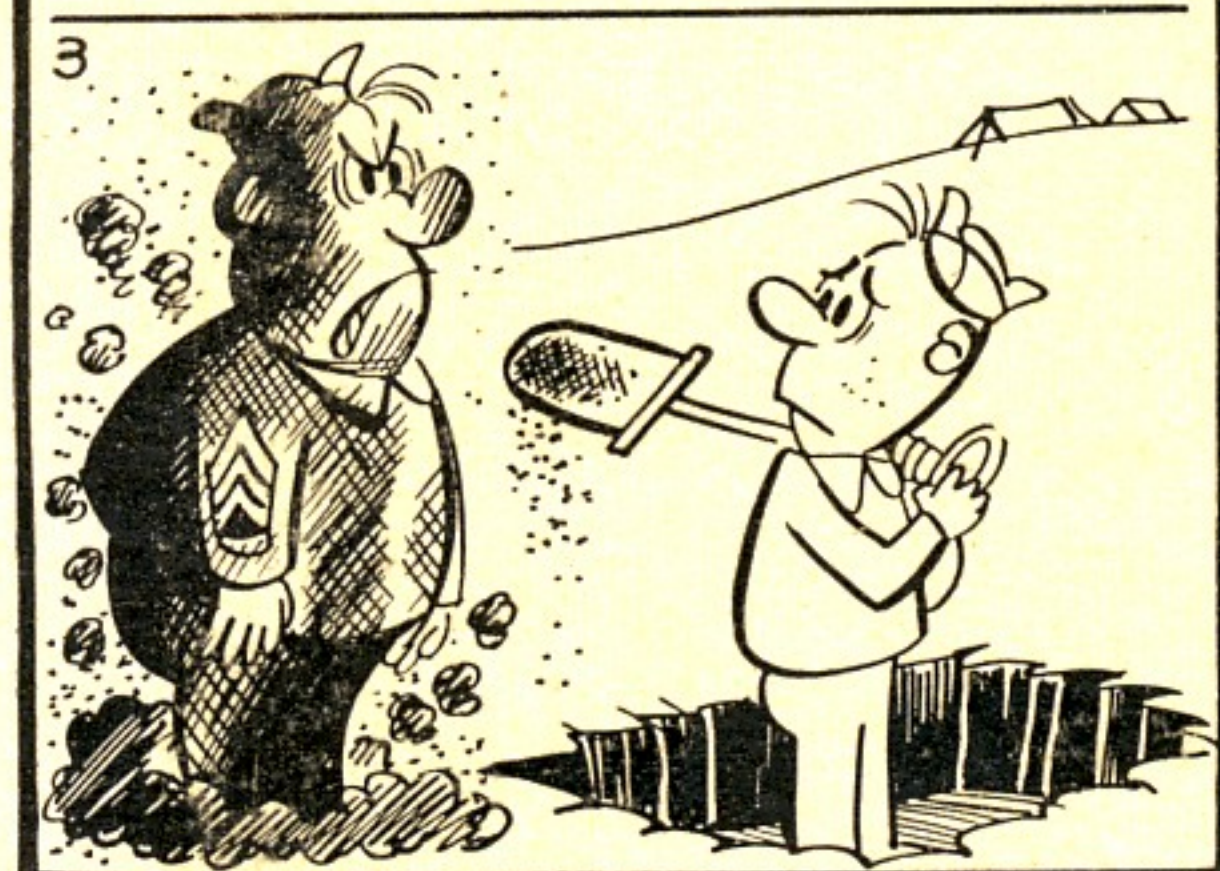
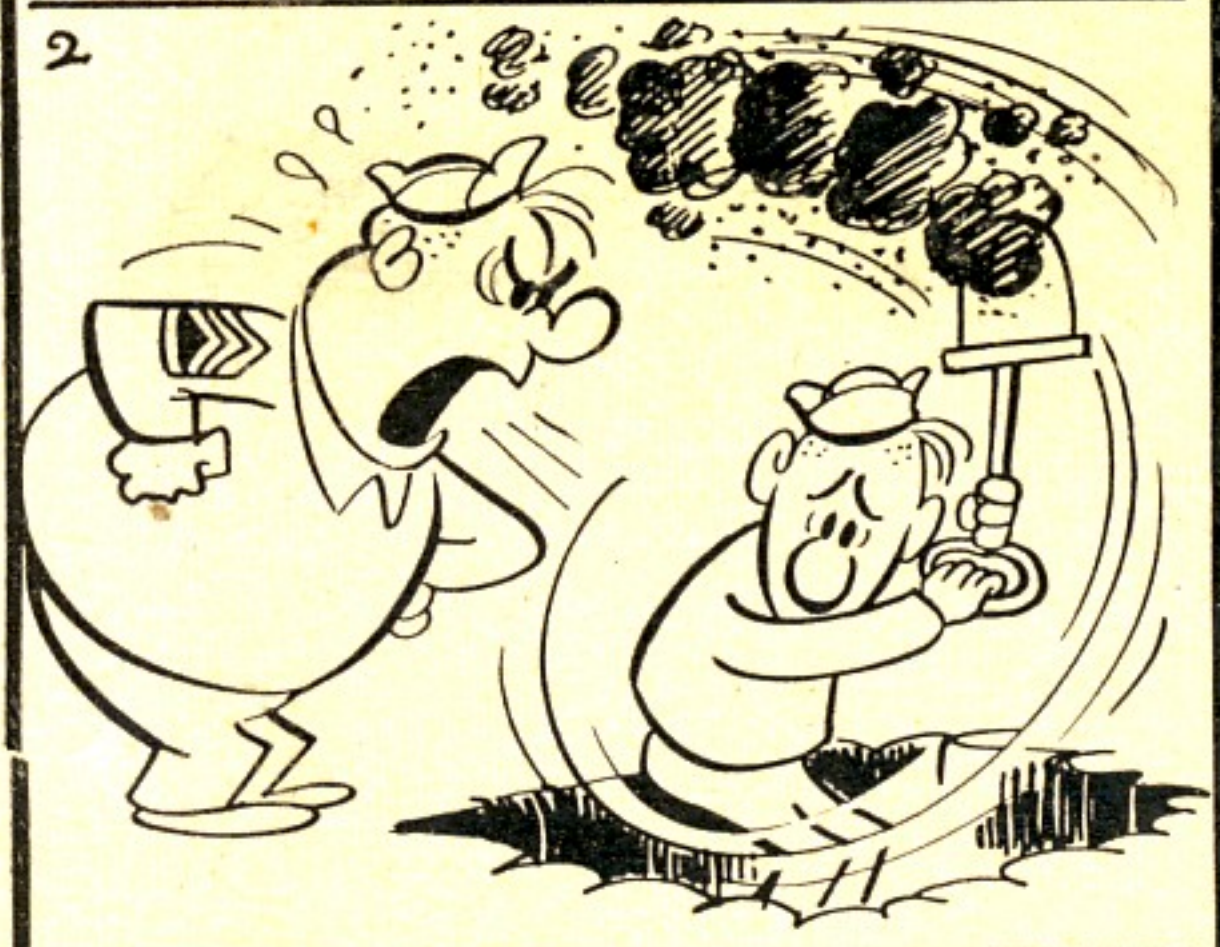
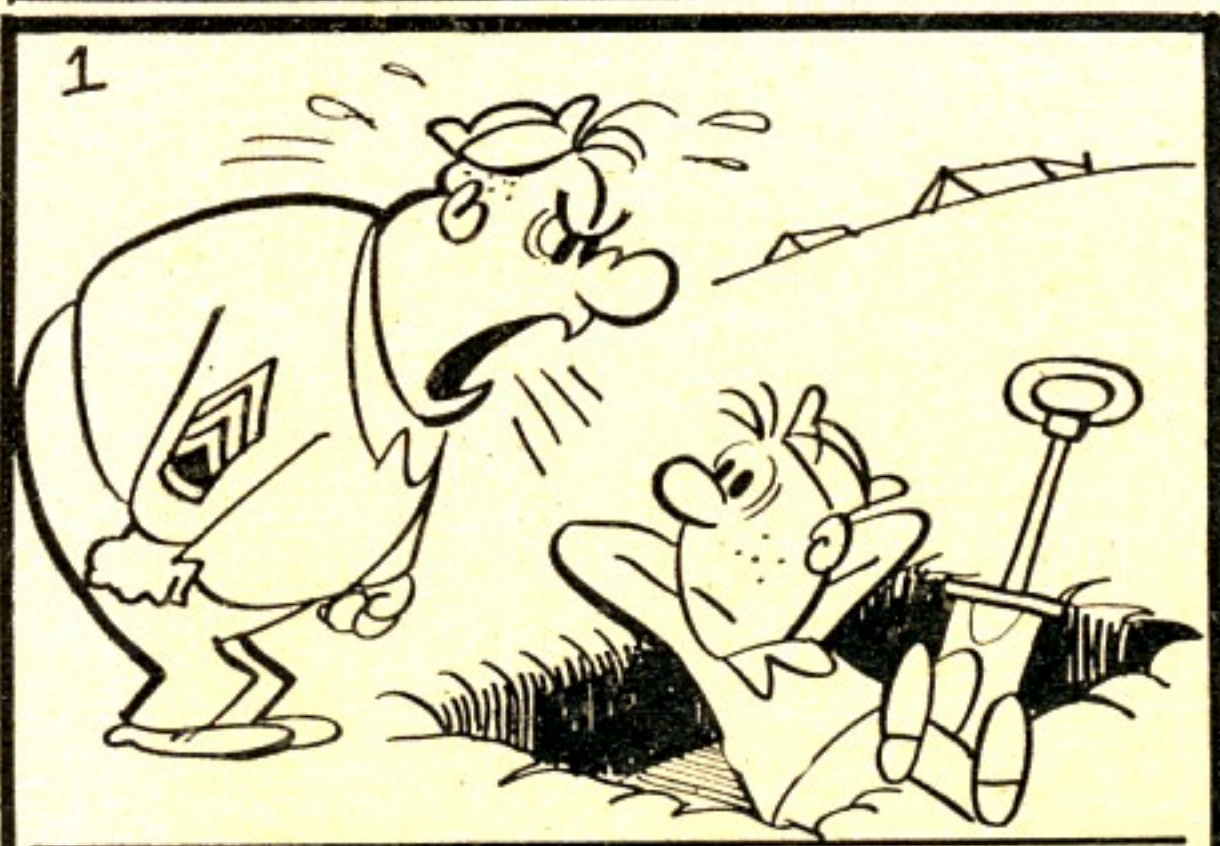
★

**The YARDBIRDS in Hollywood ...
THE "OOF" GIRL**

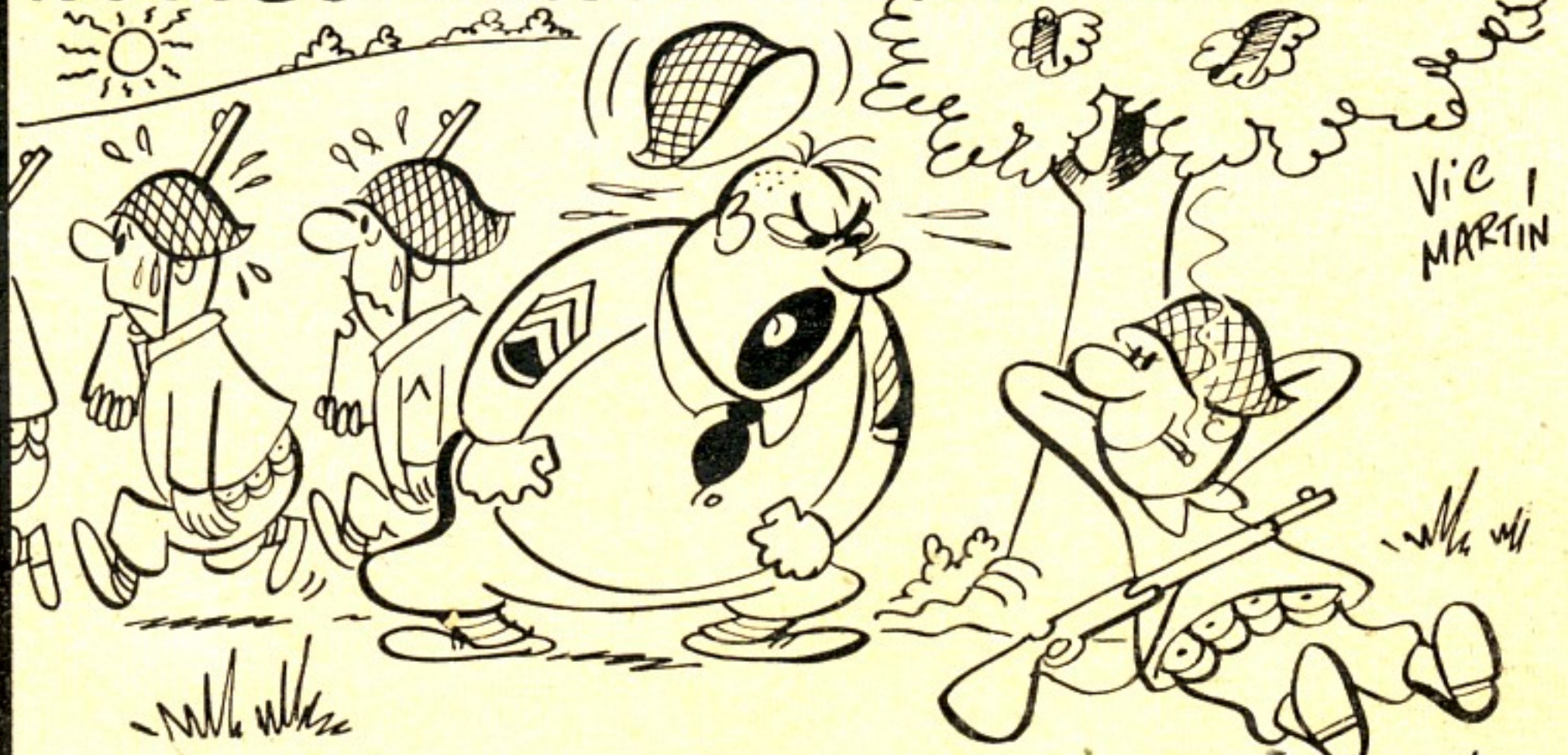


WEB COMIC
UNIVERSE.COM

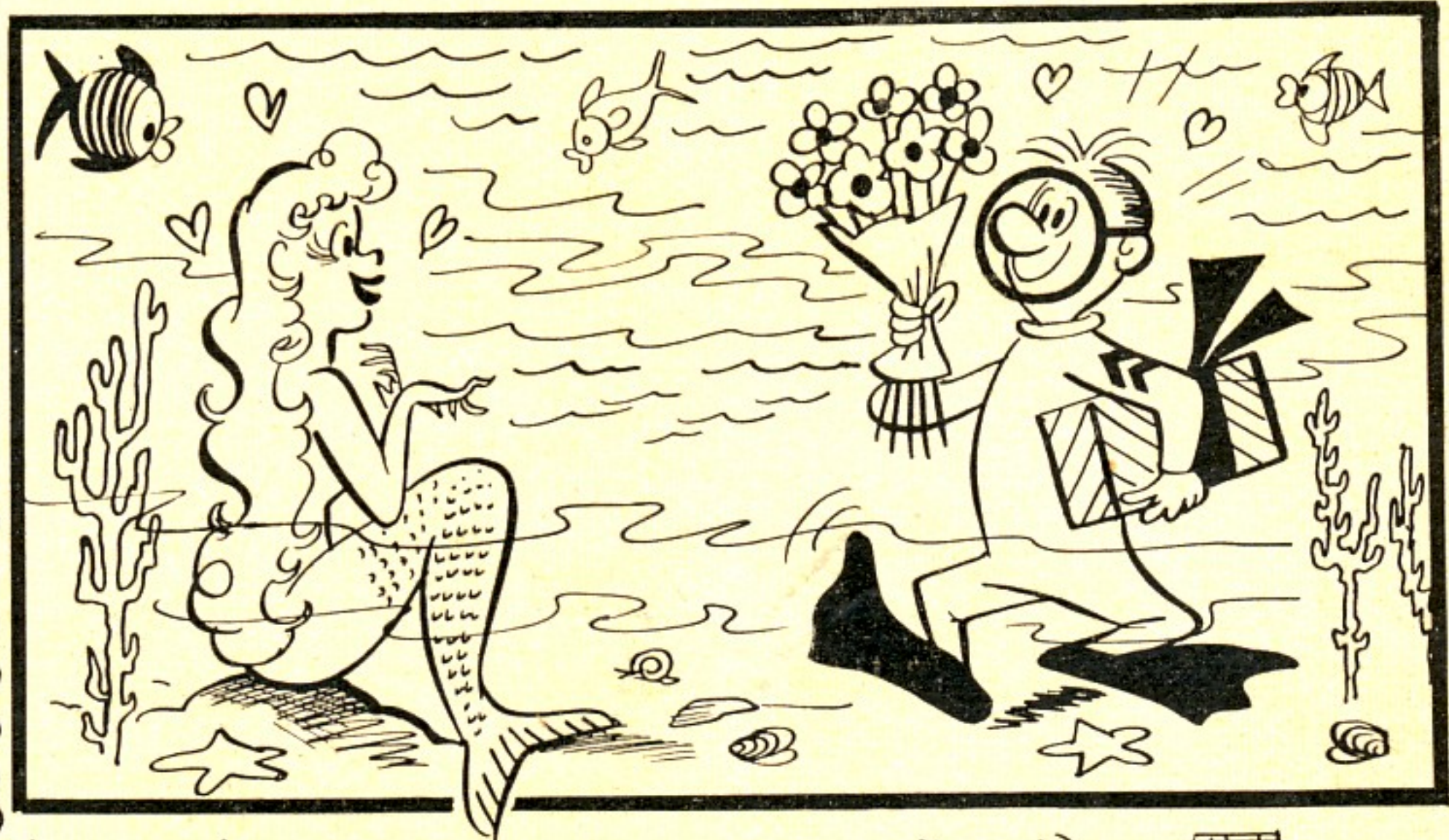
G.I. GAGS



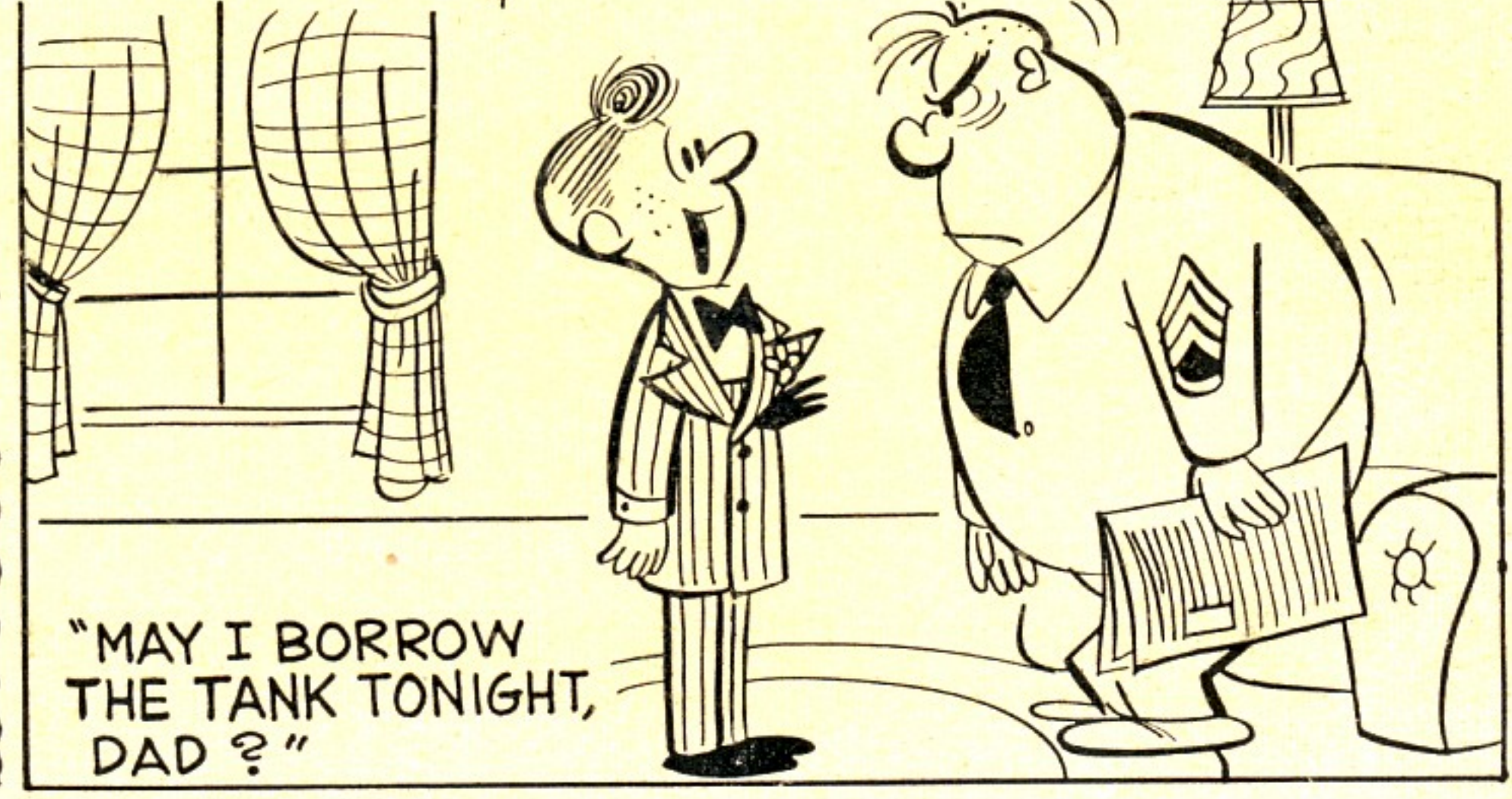
"I THINK WE'RE BEING FOLLOWED!"



"WHAT DO YOU MEAN 'YOU'RE OUT OF GAS!'"



"I JUST REMEMBERED—MY FOLKS AREN'T HOME TONIGHT!"

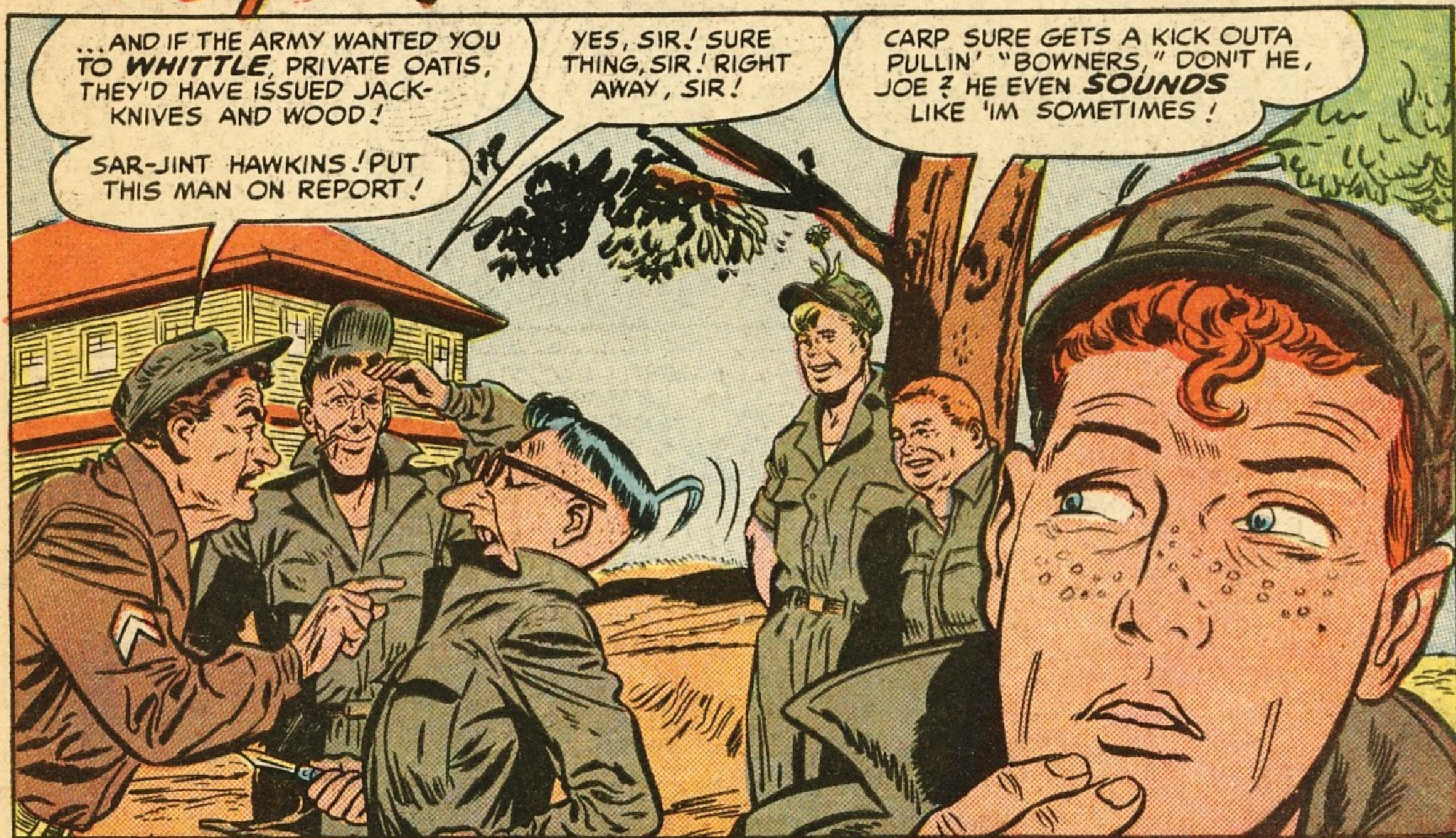


"MAY I BORROW THE TANK TONIGHT, DAD?"

G.I. Joe

in
The Weight of the Bar

CLOTHES DON'T MAKE THE MAN... AND IN THE ARMY THE UNIFORM AND THE INSIGNIA DON'T MAKE THE OFFICER. A NATURAL INSTINCT FOR LEADERSHIP MAY LIE JUST AS EFFECTIVELY BEHIND A SERGEANT'S STRIPES AS UNDERNEATH A LIEUTENANT'S BARS. "B" COMPANY HAD GOOD CAUSE FOR REMEMBERING THE TRUTH OF THIS, BUT MALCOLM COLLINS, A RECENT RECRUIT, HAD YET TO FIND IT OUT. HE WAS, HOWEVER, EAGER TO LEARN...



G. I. JOE, Vol. 4, No. 31, MAY, 1954, published monthly by Ziff-Davis Publishing Company, 64 E. Lake St., Chicago 1, Ill. Executive and Editorial Office, 366 Madison Ave., New York 17, N. Y. Herbert W. Rogoff, Editor, Single copies 10¢. Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at Chicago, Ill. Subscription rates: In the U. S., Canada and U. S. Possessions, \$1.20 for 12 issues; Mexico, South and Central America and all foreign \$2.20 for 12 issues. All communications about subscriptions should be addressed to the Circulation Department, 64 E. Lake St., Chicago 1, Ill. The Publisher is not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts or art work. Manuscripts or art work accompanied by self-addressed, stamped envelopes will be returned. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons and/or institutions appearing in this magazine and those of any living or dead person or institution is intended and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental.

COPYRIGHT 1954 BY ZIFF-DAVIS PUBLISHING COMPANY. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. PRINTED IN U. S. A.



I SURE WOULD!

WELL, FIRST OF ALL, PULLIN' A "BOWNER" AIN'T EXACTLY WHAT YOU THINK! WE CALL IT THAT NOW, ON ACCOUNT OF "BOWNER" WAS THE NAME OF A LIEUTENANT WE HAD BEFORE LIEUTENANT PARKER!...



...I GUESS LIEUTENANT BOWNER MIGHT NEVER HAVE COME ALONG AT ALL, IF THE SARGE HADN'T TURNED THE COLONEL DOWN FLAT! BUT YOU'VE BEEN WITH US LONG ENOUGH TO KNOW MULVANEY, KID—AND HE WASN'T ANY DIFFERENT THEN!

WELL, IT WAS QUITE A WHILE BACK, AND RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF ONE OF OUR TOUGHEST CAMPAIGNS...

"...AND THE SARGE HAD BEEN CALLED INTO HQ..."

OF COURSE WE CAN'T **FORCE** YOU TO ACCEPT A LIEUTENANCY, SERGEANT MULVANEY—BUT IN THIS TIME OF EMERGENCY, A MAN MUST FACE UP TO RESPONSIBILITY!

ARE YOU SAYIN' I'M **SHIRKIN'** MY DUTY, COLONEL, BY WANTIN' TO HANG ON TO MY STRIPES?



AT EASE, SERGEANT...

NO, I'M NOT SAYING ANYTHING OF THE SORT! I'M MERELY REMINDING YOU THAT WE NEED A QUALIFIED LEADER FOR BAKER COMPANY, AND--

IF YOU'LL EXCUSE MY INTERRUPTIN', COLONEL, I CAN BE MORE GOOD TO MY BOYS OUT THERE **WITH** 'EM, THAN **YELLIN'** AT 'EM OVER A WALKIE-TALKIE OR WATCHIN' 'EM THROUGH A PAIR O' BINOC'S!

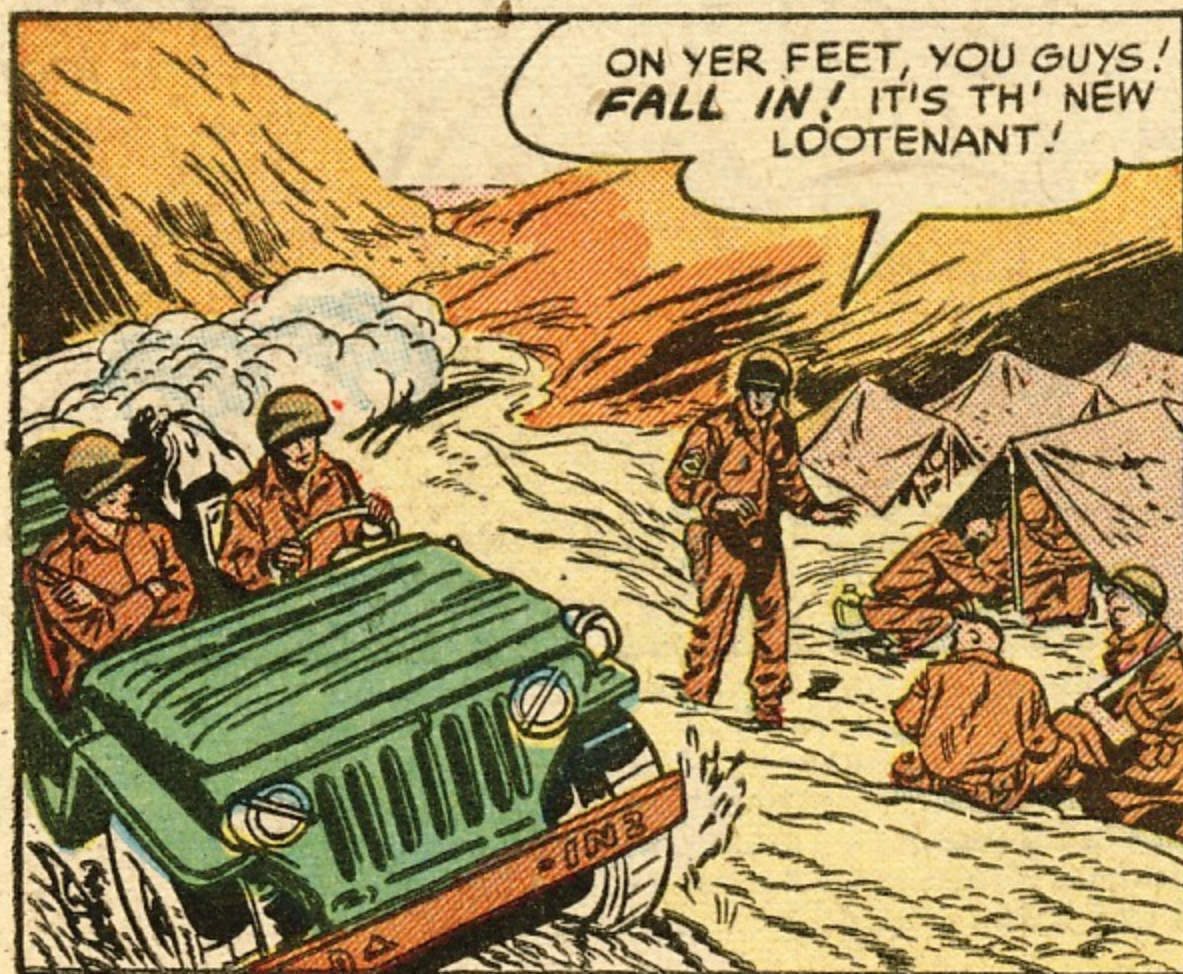


WELL, THINK THIS PROMOTION OVER CAREFULLY, SERGEANT! I'LL HAVE TO HAVE YOUR ANSWER BY--

YOU GOT IT **NOW**, COLONEL! I'M STAYIN' **WITH MY BOYS!**



"...**WELL**, THAT'S HOW IT STOOD WITH THE SARGE, KID... AND THAT'S HOW LIEUTENANT LAWRENCE E. BOWNER CAME TO "B" COMPANY. IT WAS THE MORNING AFTER AN ALL-NIGHT ATTACK, AND WE WERE ALL STILL FEELIN' THE EFFECTS OF IT..."



ON YER FEET, YOU GUYS! **FALL IN!** IT'S TH' NEW LOOTENANT!



WELCOME TO BAKER COMPANY, LIEUTENANT BOWNER! WE WASN'T EXACTLY SURE WHEN YOU'D BE GETTIN' HERE, BUT--

YOUR LACK OF PREPARATION IS QUITE EVIDENT, SERGEANT! HOWEVER I'LL OVERLOOK IT--FOR THE TIME BEING!

OH-OH! I SEEN CHARACTERS LIKE THIS BEFORE, JOE... BUT THEY WAS STUFFED AND MOUNTED—WHERE THEY BELONGED!

"... YES, ZED STONEHAM'S FIRST OPINION OF LIEUTENANT BOWNER WASN'T VERY HIGH, AND AS TIME WENT BY IT DIDN'T GET ANY BETTER. IT WAS THE NEXT DAY WHEN ..."



IF THE ARMY HAD **WANTED** YOU TO USE ALCOHOL FOR CLEANING YOUR RIFLE, THEY'D HAVE SAVED THE EXPENSE OF ISSUING BORE CLEANER!

SERGEANT MULVANEY! COME HERE!

YES, SIR...



AND THAT SHIRT YOU'RE WEARING! I DON'T RECALL IT AS REGULATION!

SERGEANT! **PUT THIS MAN ON REPORT!**



I DON'T LIKE THAT MAN, SERGEANT! WHO IS HE?

STONEHAM, SIR! ZED STONEHAM! HE'S ONE OF THE BEST MEN WE'VE GOT! HE'S --

HE'S NOT "**ARMY**," SERGEANT! AND I MIGHT ADD THAT GOES FOR MOST OF THE OTHERS! I'M NOT ATTEMPTING TO SAY WHO'S **RESPONSIBLE** FOR THE LAXITY AROUND HERE, BUT I **AM** SAYING IT'S GOING TO STOP -- **AND AT ONCE!**

YES, SIR...

BUT MAY I JUST REMIND YOU, SIR, THE GOING'S BEEN PRETTY ROUGH OUT HERE! THE MEN ARE ALL --

THESE MEN ARE ALL **SUPPOSED** TO BE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY, AND I'M HERE TO SEE TO IT THAT THEY CONDUCT THEMSELVES AS SUCH! STARTING THIS MORNING -- **AND EVERY MORNING HEREAFTER** -- WE WILL HAVE AT LEAST TWO HOURS OF CLOSE ORDER DRILL!

THAT'S ALL, SERGEANT! SEE THAT MY ORDERS ARE CARRIED OUT!

YES, SIR...



... SOMEDAY, I'LL MEET UP WITH THAT PENTAGON PIPSQUEAK WHEN HIS LITTLE GOLD BARS WON'T DO HIM NO GOOD! THEN, S'HELP ME, I'M GONNA --

HEY, YOU GUYS! TH' LIEUTENANT SAYS --

SARGE! SARGE! WHERE'S THE LIEUTENANT...?



... ORDERS JUST CAME THROUGH FOR AN **ADVANCE!**

HOLY COW! NOW WE GOTTA GO OUT AN' **FIGHT** UNDER THAT TWO-BIT NAPOLEON!

NAPOLEON WAS A GREAT LEADER, ZED! MAYBE LIEUTENANT BOWNER WILL BE, TOO!

"... YES, THERE WERE LOTS A TIMES I REMEMBERED SAYIN' THAT TO ZED STONEHAM, BUT THEY ALL CAME AFTER THAT ADVANCE. JUST BEFORE WE MOVED OUT..."

... BUT THAT'S TREACHEROUS COUNTRY OUT THERE, LOOTENANT! MOVIN' OUT IN PLATOON FORMATION'S LIKE TELEGRAPHIN' AHEAD TO BE MET!

WE WILL MOVE OUT LIKE THE ARMY, SERGEANT! NOT LIKE BOY SCOUTS ON A HIKE! WE ARE A **UNIT** OF THE ARMY, AND THAT'S HOW WE WILL EAT, SLEEP, BREATHE, THINK AND **FIGHT!**

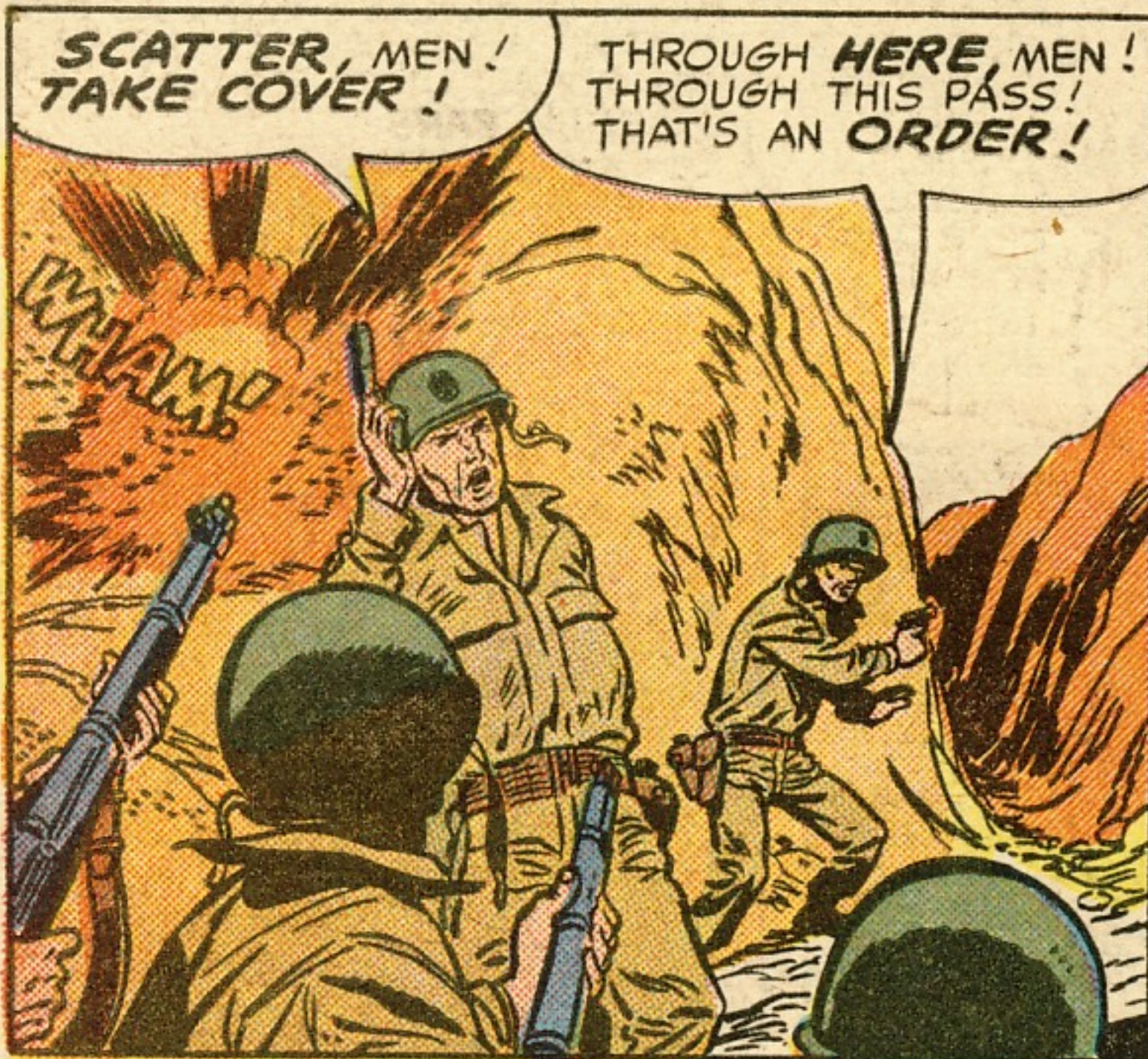
FOR-WARD...
MARCH!



"... WELL, WE MOVED OUT LIKE THE ARMY ALL RIGHT... BUT IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE..."

**SCATTER, MEN!
TAKE COVER!**

THROUGH **HERE**, MEN!
THROUGH THIS PASS!
THAT'S AN **ORDER!**



"... WELL, WE WERE PROTECTED FROM THE SHELLING INSIDE THAT CANYON, BUT THE NEXT THING..."

SARGE! **LOOK!**



... IT'S A **DEAD-END** IN HERE! WE'RE **SITTIN' DUCKS!** THAT BRASS-POLISHIN', KNUCKLE-HEADED LOOIE HAS LED US **RIGHT INTO A TRAP!**



"...**WELL**, STONEHAM WAS RIGHT! WE WERE SURE TRAPPED! AND ZED KEPT RUBBING IT INTO ME ABOUT WHAT I'D SAID..."

...AN **YOU** THOUGHT HE'D MAKE A GOOD LEADER! **FOUR DAYS** NOW WE BEEN HERE, AN' ALL HE DOES IS HAVE **FIELD** INSPECTIONS! WELL, HE'S SURE GOT **ONE** THING IN COMMON WITH NAPOLEON! LIEUTENANT LAWRENCE E. BOWNER IS **PLAIN NUTS!**

KNOCK IT OFF, STONEHAM! HERE HE COMES...



STONEHAM, I WANT YOU TO-- IS **THAT A BAYONET** YOU'RE USING TO OPEN THAT RATION TIN?

I AIN'T GOT A CAN OPENER WITH ME--**SIR!**



DO YOU REALIZE YOU'RE USING **GOVERNMENT PROPERTY** TO PERFORM A JOB FOR WHICH IT WAS **NEVER INTENDED?**

MY STOMACH AIN'T GOVERNMENT PROPERTY, **LOO-TENANT**! AN' WHEN IT'S HUNGRY, AS LONG AS I GOT ANYTHIN' LEFT, I'M GONNA FEED IT!



I'LL SEE TO IT THAT A FULL REPORT OF THIS GOES IN TO-- OH, SERGEANT! I WANT TO SPEAK WITH YOU!

S'HELP ME, I AIN'T GONNA **WAIT** TILL THAT LITTLE PUNK'S NOT WEARIN' HIS BARS! I'LL TAKE HIM TO PIECES **NOW!**



IT'S STONEHAM AGAIN, SERGEANT! AS SOON AS THEY GET US OUT OF THIS MESS, I WANT YOU TO SEE THAT--

EXCUSE ME, SIR, BUT IF I'M NOT BEIN' TOO INQUISITIVE... AS SOON AS **WHO** GETS US OUT OF THIS MESS?

WHY, THE AIR FORCE, OF COURSE! IF WE'D HAD PROPER CO-OPERATION FROM THEM IN THE FIRST PLACE--

LOOTENANT... THERE ARE MIGHTY FEW THINGS THE AIR FORCE DON'T KNOW-- BUT RIGHT NOW **ONE** OF 'EM IS WHERE BAKER COMPANY IS AT! IF WE GET OUTA HERE, WE GOTTA DO IT **ON OUR OWN!**

I UNDERSTAND, SERGEANT...

WELL, I'LL BE IN MY HEAD-QUARTERS... I'LL-ER-I'LL BE MAPPING OUT OUR BEST STRATEGY! IT SHOULDN'T TAKE ME TOO LONG...



"...**B**UT IT TOOK TOO LONG FOR THE GROWING UNREST AMONG THE MEN, AND IN PARTICULAR FOR ZED STONEHAM. A FEW DAYS LATER..."



"...AND A FEW MINUTES LATER..."

...BUT ARE YOU SURE WE CAN GET THROUGH, SERGEANT? ARE YOU CERTAIN WE WON'T BE--

EVERYTHIN'S A GAMBLE WHEN YOU'RE PLAYIN' FER KEEPS, LOOTENANT! I'VE TOLD THE MEN THE CHANCE THEY'LL BE TAKIN' USIN' THAT PASS... BUT THEY'RE ALL SET TO TRY!

THEY'RE WAITIN' FER YOUR ORDERS, SIR!

THEY'RE WAITING FOR--FOR MY ORDERS?

THAT'S WHAT I SAID, SIR...

ALL RIGHT, SERGEANT, WE'LL--

I **CAN'T** GIVE ANY ORDERS, SERGEANT! **YOU** TAKE OVER! WE'LL DO IT **ANY WAY YOU SAY!**

"...**WELL**, YOU CAN IMAGINE THE SARGE'S RE-ACTION TO THAT! BUT HE NEVER SHOWED IT, AND THAT NIGHT HE GOT US ALL OUT OF THE CANYON, ONE BY ONE. WHEN WE WERE BACK AT CAMP..."

WONDER WHERE NAPOLEON IS! THOUGHT SURE **HE'D** BE AROUND BRAGGIN' ABOUT HOW SMART HE WAS TO GET US OUTA THAT--

USE **RESPECT**, STONEHAM, WHEN YA TALK ABOUT YER PLATOON LEADER-- GET ME?

HE HAD TO TURN IN HIS REPORT AT HQ! HE'LL BE BACK...

"...**BUT** AT HQ..."

...AND I KNOW I'M NOT FIT FOR DUTY, GENTLEMEN! I WAS ENTIRELY RESPONSIBLE FOR OUR BEING TRAPPED... AND I WAS INCAPABLE OF GETTING MY MEN OUT! I OUGHT TO BE ASKING FOR A COURT-MARTIAL, BUT INSTEAD... INSTEAD, I'M ASKING...

...NO, I'M **BEGGING** YOU TO SEND ME BACK TO BAKER COMPANY! I CAN'T LIVE WITH MYSELF THIS WAY! I'VE GOT TO PROVE TO THOSE MEN THAT I'M **MORE** THAN JUST "ARMY!" I'VE GOT TO PROVE...

...THAT I'M **NOT** JUST A LIEUTENANT! I-I'VE GOT TO PROVE I'M A **MAN!**



AND **DID** THEY SEND HIM BACK TO YOU, JOE? **DID THEY?**

YES, KID... THEY DID!



WELL, WHERE IS HE? WHY ISN'T HE--

HE'S DEAD! — HE DIED ON OUR NEXT MISSION! HE WENT OUT AFTER A MAN WHO'D BEEN HIT... AND HE BROUGHT HIM IN! IT WAS LIKE A CORPSE CARRYING A CORPSE—BUT LIEUTENANT BOWNER WAS SMILING!



YOU SEE, THE LIEUTENANT'S BARS WERE KIND OF HEAVY FOR HIM FOR A WHILE, BUT AFTER HE LEARNED WHAT THEY **REALLY** WEIGHED—WELL, HE SHOWED US WHAT HE COULD LIFT!



GOSH, JOE—IF THE FELLERS ENDED UP **LIKING** HIM, WHY DO THEY KID ABOUT LIEUTENANT BOWNER NOW?

IT'S NOT EXACTLY "KIDDING"... AFTER YOU'VE BEEN IN THE ARMY A WHILE, YOU'LL FIND OUT THERE ARE THINGS YOU WANT TO REMEMBER, AND THINGS YOU WANT TO FORGET...



...AND WHEN YOU WANT TO REMEMBER SOMETHIN' THAT HURTS—WELL, IT'S EASIER TO HANG ON TO IF YOU DON'T LET THE HURT SHOW! THAT WAY, YOU CAN TALK ABOUT IT—AND EVERYBODY KNOWS WHAT YOU MEAN!



GEE, THE ARMY'S SURE KIND OF STRANGE, JOE! DO YOU THINK I'LL EVER--

GET USED TO IT? SURE, YOU WILL, BUT RIGHT NOW...

HEY, **SARGE!**



THIS MAN'S BEEN ASKIN' TOO MANY QUESTIONS! **PUT HIM ON REPORT, SERGEANT—AN' THAT'S AN ORDER!**

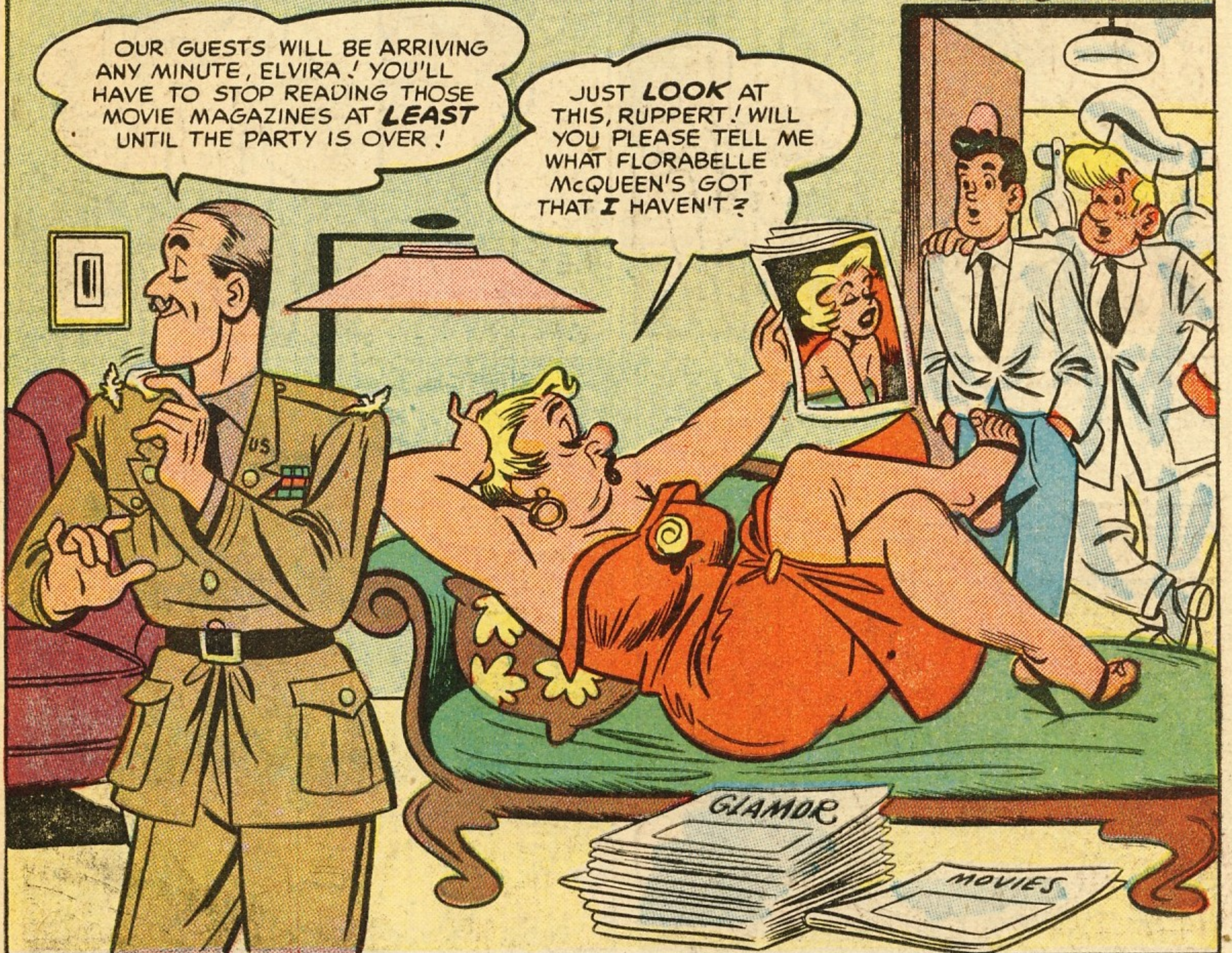
YES, **SIR!!!**

END

The **YARDBIRDS** in "THE OOF GIRL"

OUR GUESTS WILL BE ARRIVING ANY MINUTE, ELVIRA! YOU'LL HAVE TO STOP READING THOSE MOVIE MAGAZINES AT **LEAST** UNTIL THE PARTY IS OVER!

JUST **LOOK** AT THIS, RUPPERT! WILL YOU PLEASE TELL ME WHAT FLORABELLE McQUEEN'S GOT THAT **I** HAVEN'T?



HEY, WHITEY! DID YOU HEAR THAT? THE COLONEL'S WIFE WANTS TO MAKE LIKE A MOVIE STAR!

MAYBE LASSIE COULD USE A MOTHER!

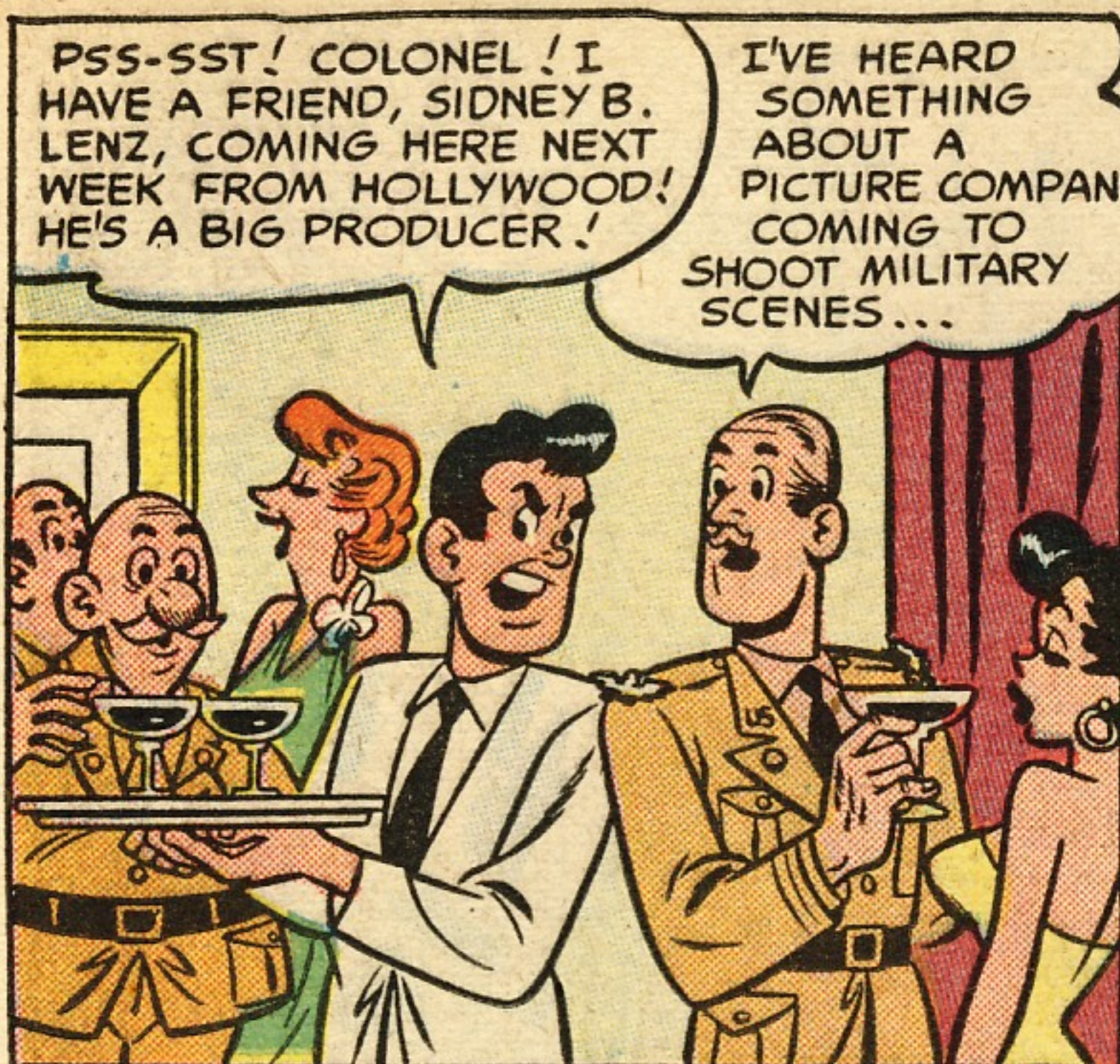


QUIET, SNAIL-BRAIN! DON'T YOU SEE THE GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FOR OUR PROMOTION THAT'S BEEN DROPPED IN OUR LAPS?

I DIDN'T SPILL ANYTHING, WINDY! HONEST!

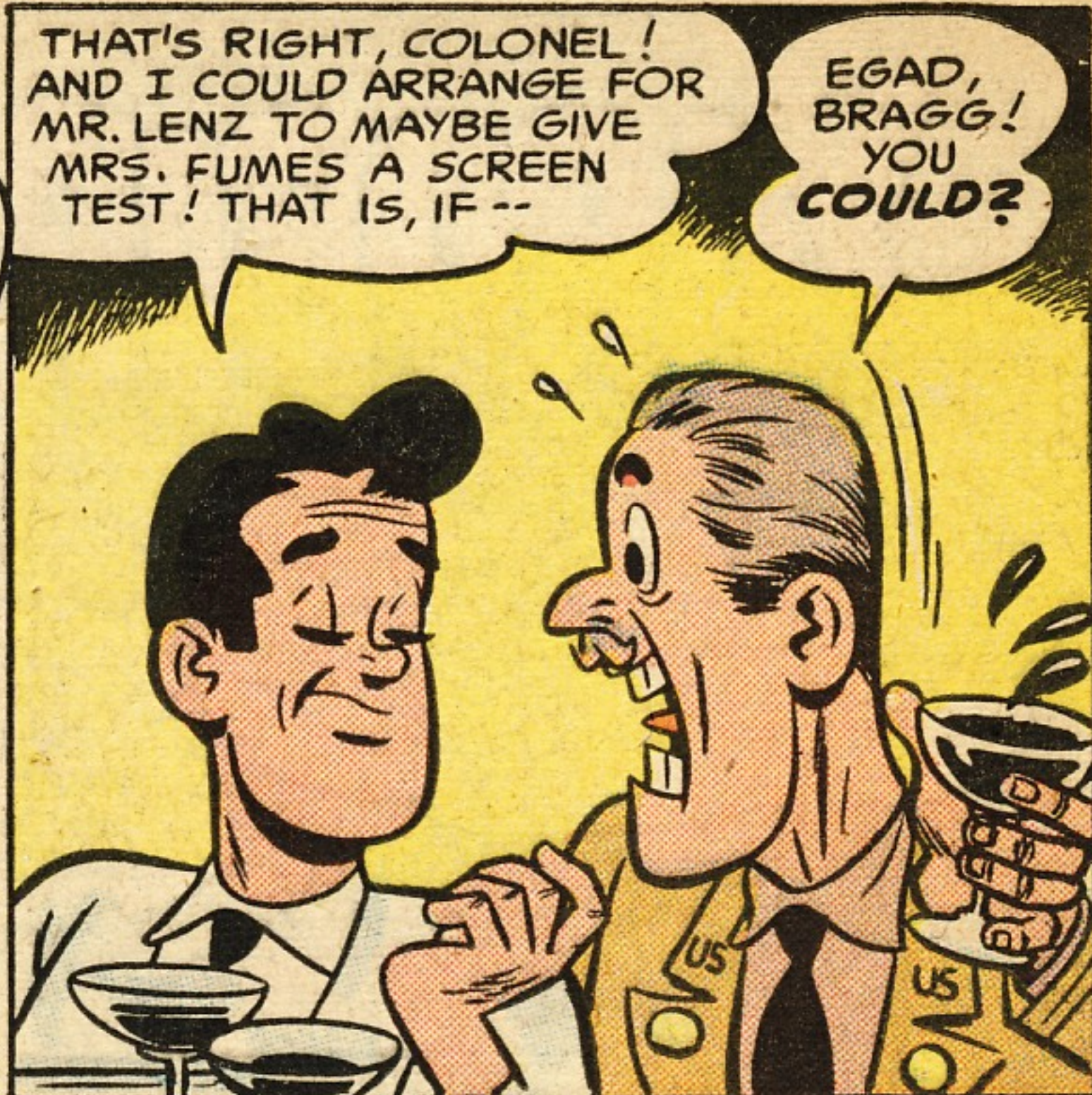


AND WITH THE PARTY IN FULL SWING...



PSS-SST! COLONEL! I HAVE A FRIEND, SIDNEY B. LENZ, COMING HERE NEXT WEEK FROM HOLLYWOOD! HE'S A BIG PRODUCER!

I'VE HEARD SOMETHING ABOUT A PICTURE COMPANY COMING TO SHOOT MILITARY SCENES...



THAT'S RIGHT, COLONEL! AND I COULD ARRANGE FOR MR. LENZ TO MAYBE GIVE MRS. FUMES A SCREEN TEST! THAT IS, IF --

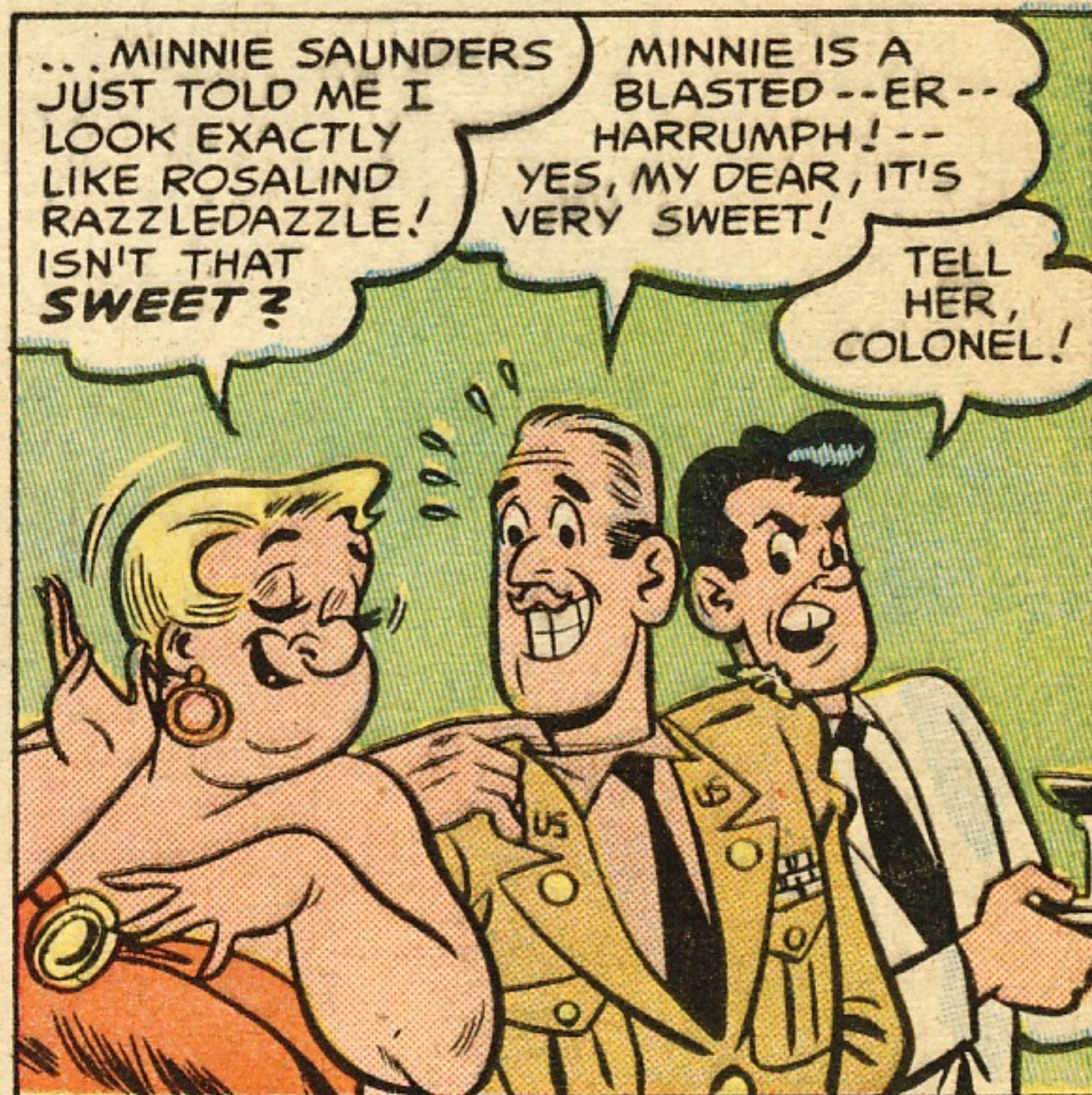
EGAD, BRAGG! YOU COULD?



IF IT WAS WORTH YOUR GIVING ME AND HICKS A PROMOTION, I COULD, SIR!

A PROMOTION? I'LL MAKE YOU A PAIR OF FIVE-STAR GENERALS IF YOU'LL ONLY GET MY WIFE AND HER CRAZY IDEAS OUT OF MY HAIR!

OH, RUPPERT, DARLING...



... MINNIE SAUNDERS JUST TOLD ME I LOOK EXACTLY LIKE ROSALIND RAZZLEDAZZLE! ISN'T THAT SWEET?

MINNIE IS A BLASTED --ER-- HARRUMPH! -- YES, MY DEAR, IT'S VERY SWEET!

TELL HER, COLONEL!



TELL ME WHAT, RUPPERT?

ER -- PRIVATE BRAGG SAYS HE CAN -- WELL, ER -- HE HAS A FRIEND IN HOLLYWOOD WHO WILL --



YOU ADORABLE SOLDIER! USING YOUR IMPORTANT CONNECTIONS TO GET ME A STARRING CONTRACT!

I'LL KICK HIM HIGHER THAN THAT IF HE DOESN'T PUT THIS OVER!

RUPPERT! I WANT THIS BOY PROMOTED JUST AS HIGH AS YOU CAN GET HIM!

THAT NIGHT...



BUT ARE YOU **SURE** SIDNEY B. LENZ WILL REMEMBER YOU? AFTER ALL, YOU ONLY SOLD HIM **TWO** NECKTIES ON THAT STREET CORNER!

I MAKE **LASTING** IMPRESSIONS ON PEOPLE, WHITEY! YOU OUGHTA KNOW THAT BY NOW!



SIDNEY B. LENZ WILL BREAK HIS BACK DOING ME A FAVOR! I SOLD HIM THE NECKTIES AND CLEANED OFF HIS CAR—ALL FOR TWO-BITS!

IS THERE ANYTHIN' **HIGHER** THAN A FIVE-STAR GENERAL? WE DON'T WANTA SETTLE TOO CHEAP!

AND A WEEK LATER...



...AND HERE'S AN OLD FRIEND OF YOURS, MR. LENZ... PRIVATE WINDY BRAGG!

OH, YES—OF COURSE! I'LL TAKE HALF A DOZEN NECKTIES THIS TIME, MY BOY! THEY MAKE EXCELLENT PEN-WIPERS!



HEH—HEH! GOOD OLD SIDNEY! ALWAYS JOKING!

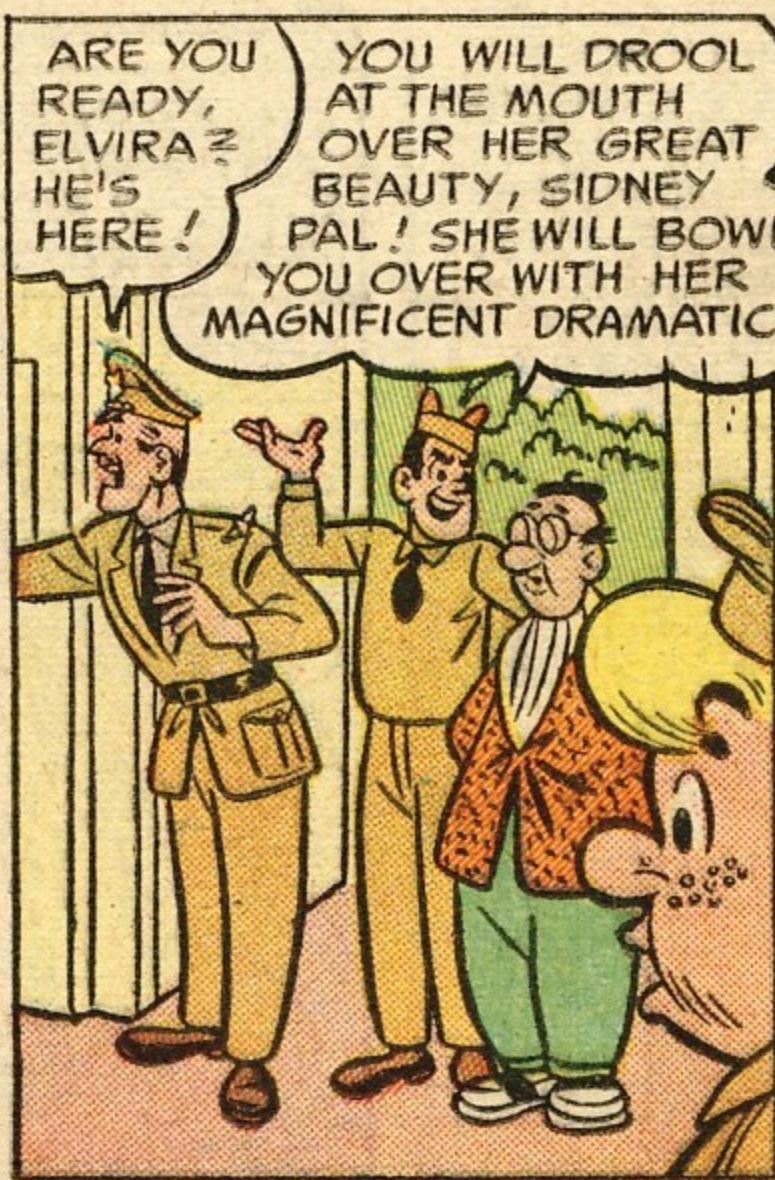
GET RIGHT IN, MR. LENZ...

GET TO THE POINT, BRAGG! TELL HIM ABOUT ELVIRA!



SIDNEY, OLD PAL... I HAVE SINGLE-HANDED DISCOVERED A NEW STAR FOR YOU! YOU WILL GO DOWN IN MOVIE HISTORY FOR BEING THE FIRST GREAT GENIUS TO RECOGNIZE SUCH A TALENT!

I AM GETTING A HEAD-ACHE! IT IS THE PRICE OF BEING A GENIUS...



ARE YOU READY, ELVIRA? HE'S HERE!

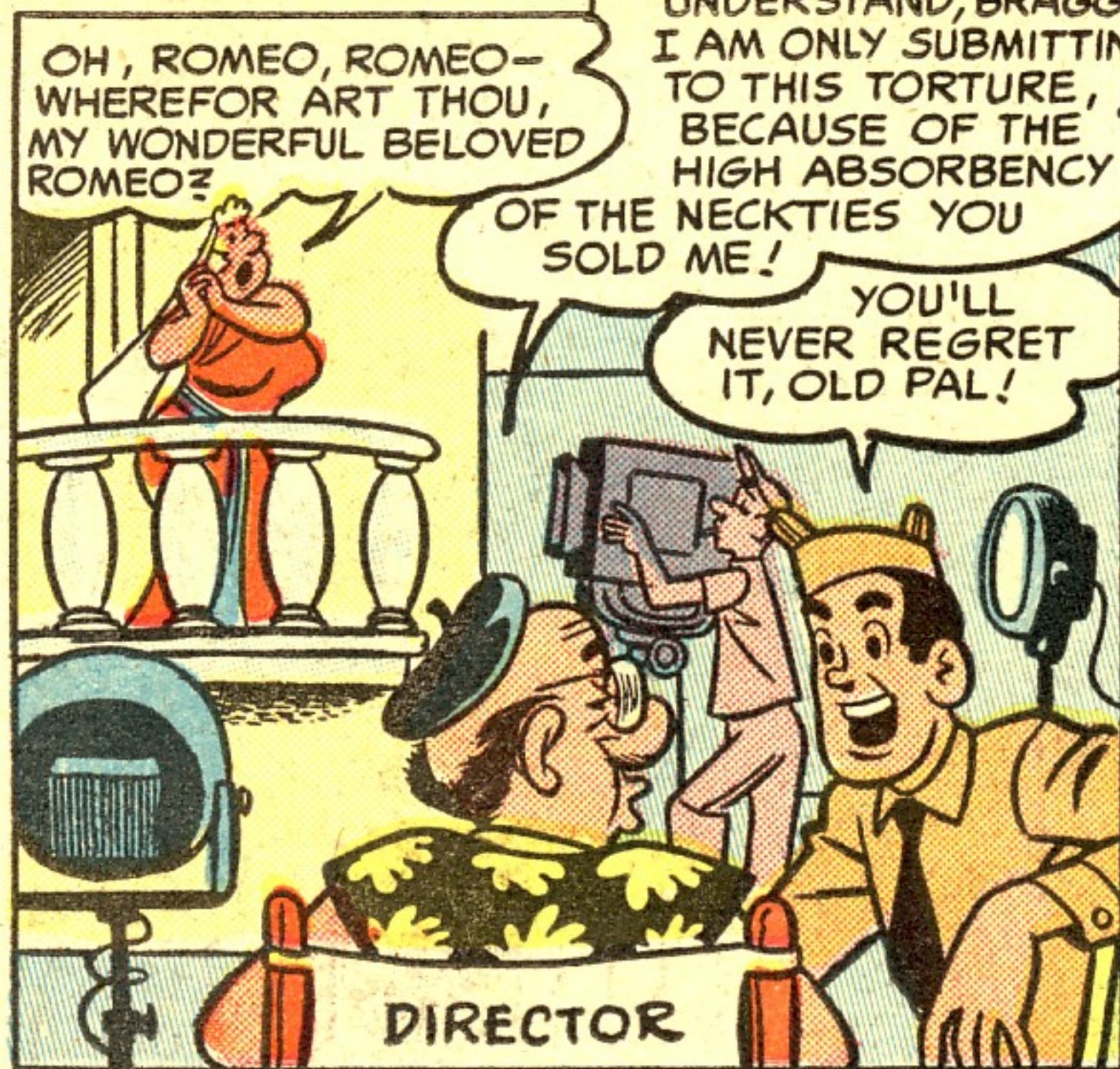
YOU WILL DROOL AT THE MOUTH OVER HER GREAT BEAUTY, SIDNEY PAL! SHE WILL BOWL YOU OVER WITH HER MAGNIFICENT DRAMATIC...



--IMPACT!

GLEEPS!!

THE NEXT MORNING...



OH, ROMEO, ROMEO—WHEREFOR ART THOU, MY WONDERFUL BELOVED ROMEO?

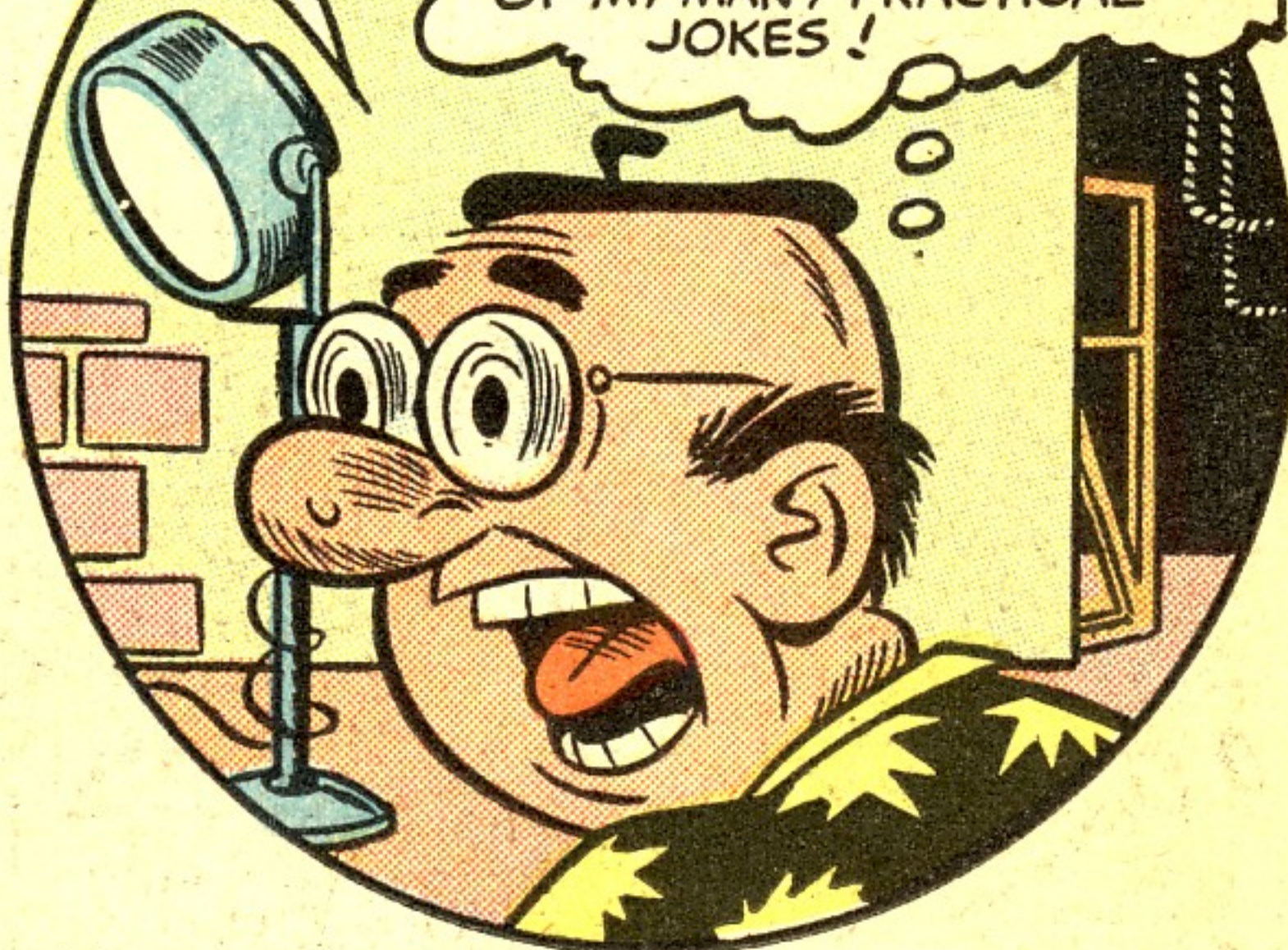
UNDERSTAND, BRAGG, I AM ONLY SUBMITTING TO THIS TORTURE, BECAUSE OF THE HIGH ABSORBENCY OF THE NECKTIES YOU SOLD ME!

YOU'LL NEVER REGRET IT, OLD PAL!

DIRECTOR

A LITTLE LATER...

CUT!

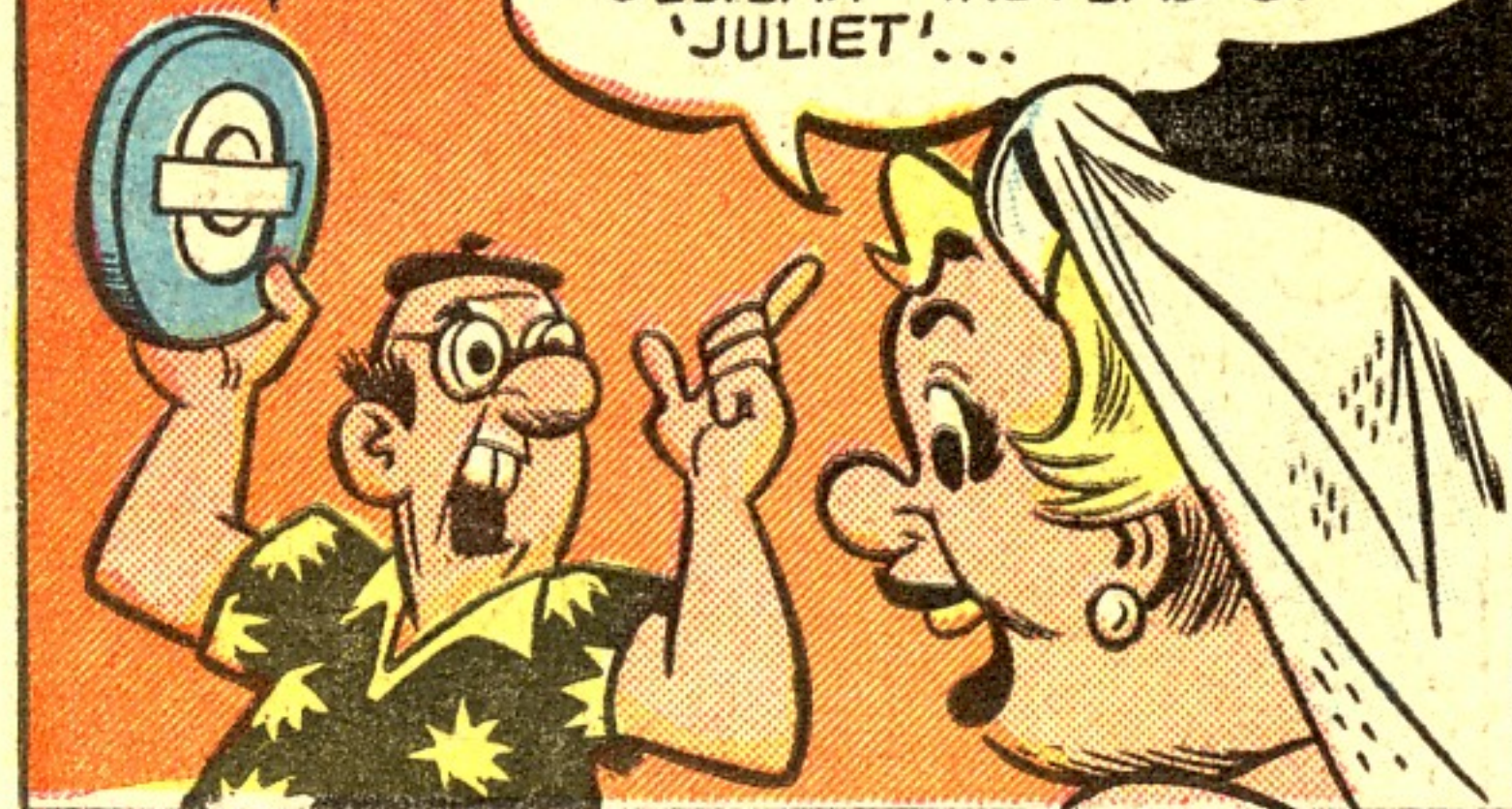


THANK HEAVENS THOSE WHO WILL SEE THIS TEST OUT IN HOLLYWOOD WILL REALIZE IT AS ONE OF MY MANY PRACTICAL JOKES!

THIS RECORD OF YOUR IMMORTAL PERFORMANCE WILL BE SHIPPED TO HOLLYWOOD IMMEDIATELY, MRS. FUMES! I CAN BUT TREMBLE UNTIL WE HAVE THEIR REPLY!

I SHAN'T SLEEP A WINK UNTIL I KNOW WHAT MY FIRST STARRING ROLE WILL BE!

OH, DEAR... MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE DONE 'DELILAH' INSTEAD OF 'JULIET'...

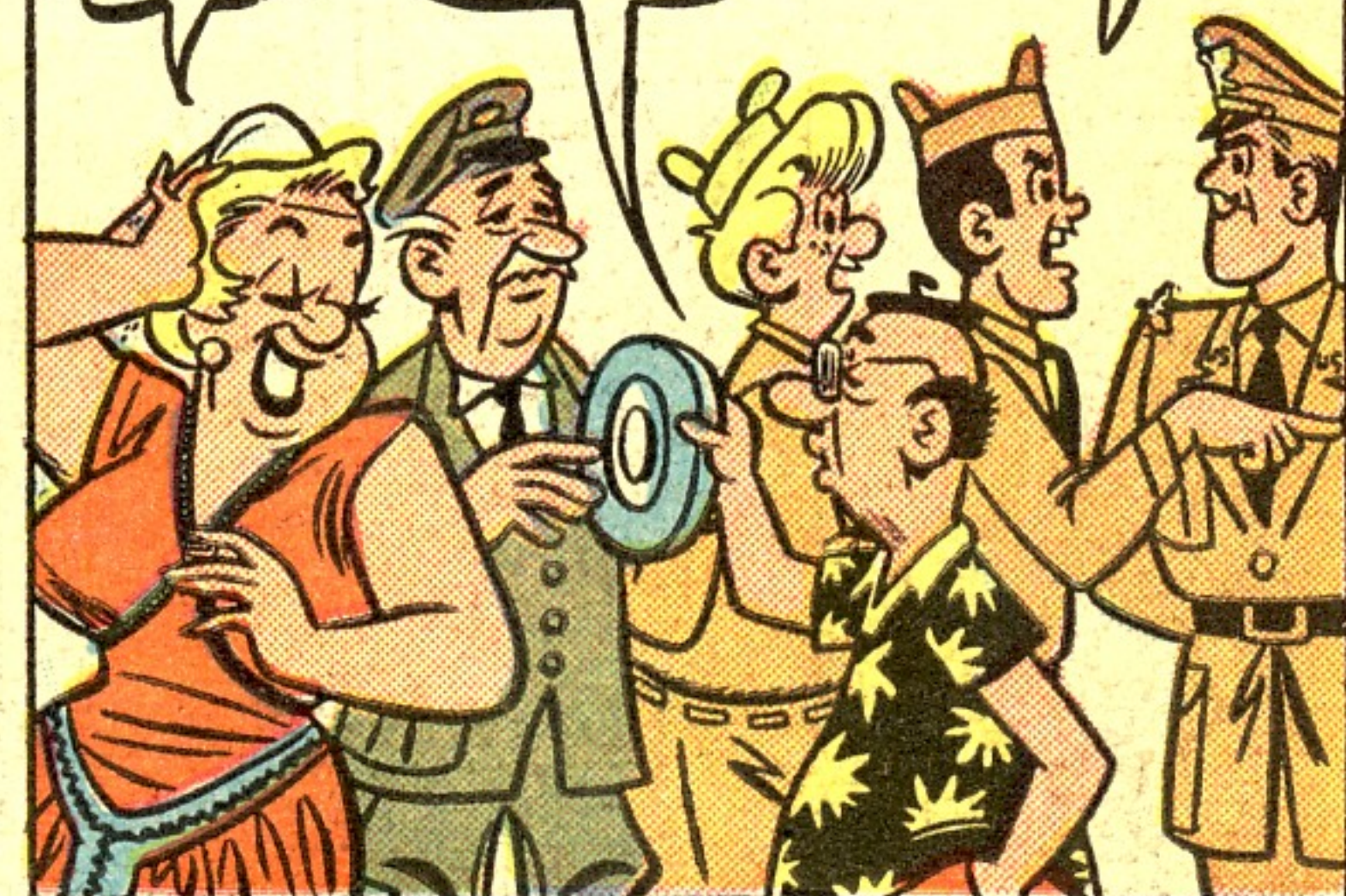


I DO 'DELILAH' LIKE SHE WAS NEVER DONE BEFORE!

THAT GOES FOR 'JULIET', TOO...

AIRMAIL THIS TO HOLLYWOOD, BOY!

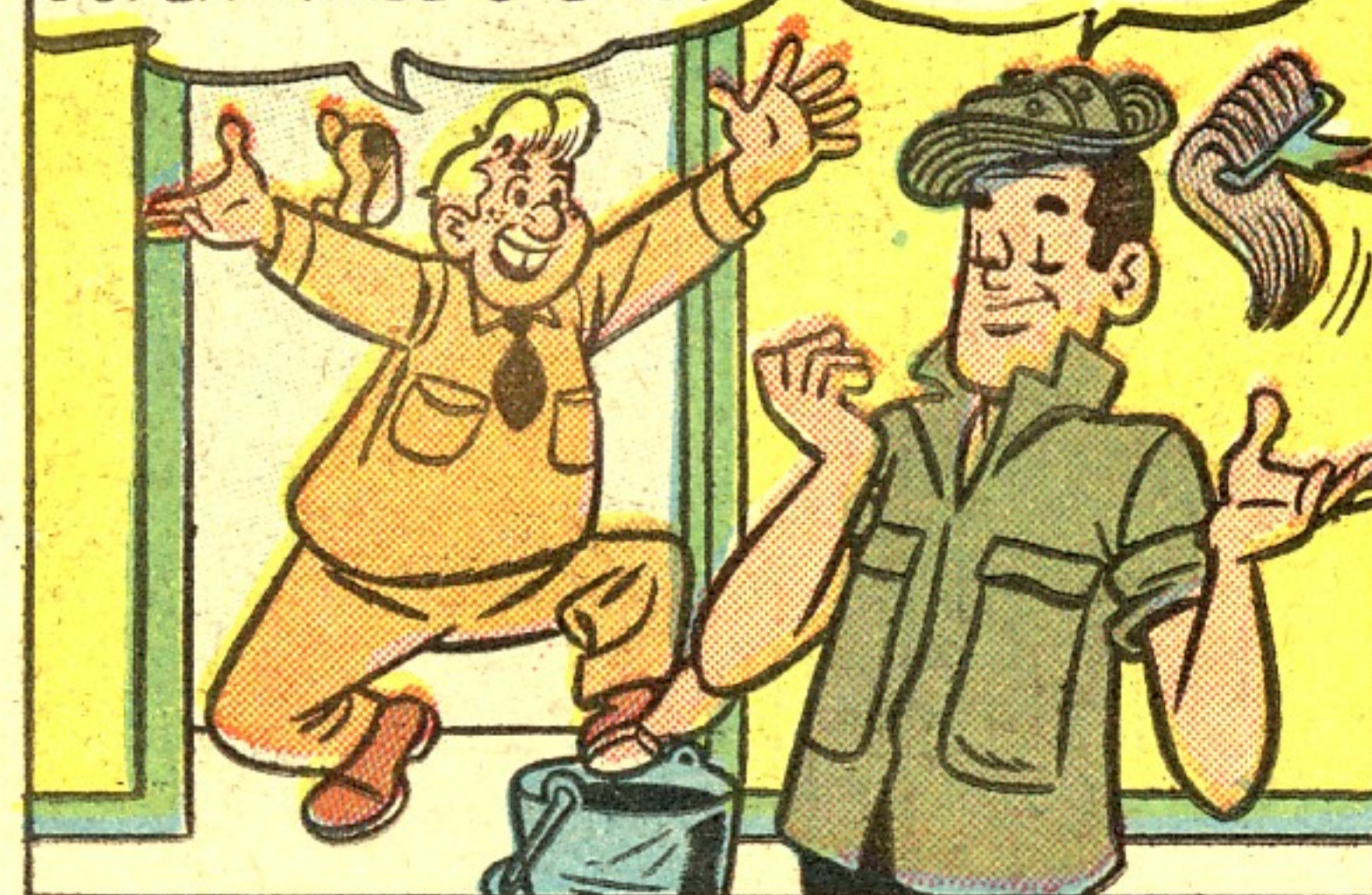
WHAT DID I TELL YOU, COLONEL? WE'VE SURE EARNED OUR PROMOTIONS!



A FEW DAYS LATER...

WINDY! WE GOT WORD FROM HOLLYWOOD! THE COLONEL'S WIFE IS FLYIN' OUT THERE TONIGHT! THEY'RE GONNA STAR HER IN A BIG SUPER-DUPER THREE-D EPIC!

NOTHIN' MORE THAN I EXPECTED, WHITEY! NOW I GOT NO FURTHER USE FOR THIS! GENERALS DON'T MOP FLOORS!



MEANWHILE...

OH, RUPPERT! I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE ROSALIND RAZZLEDAZZLE'S FACE WHEN SHE READS THIS!

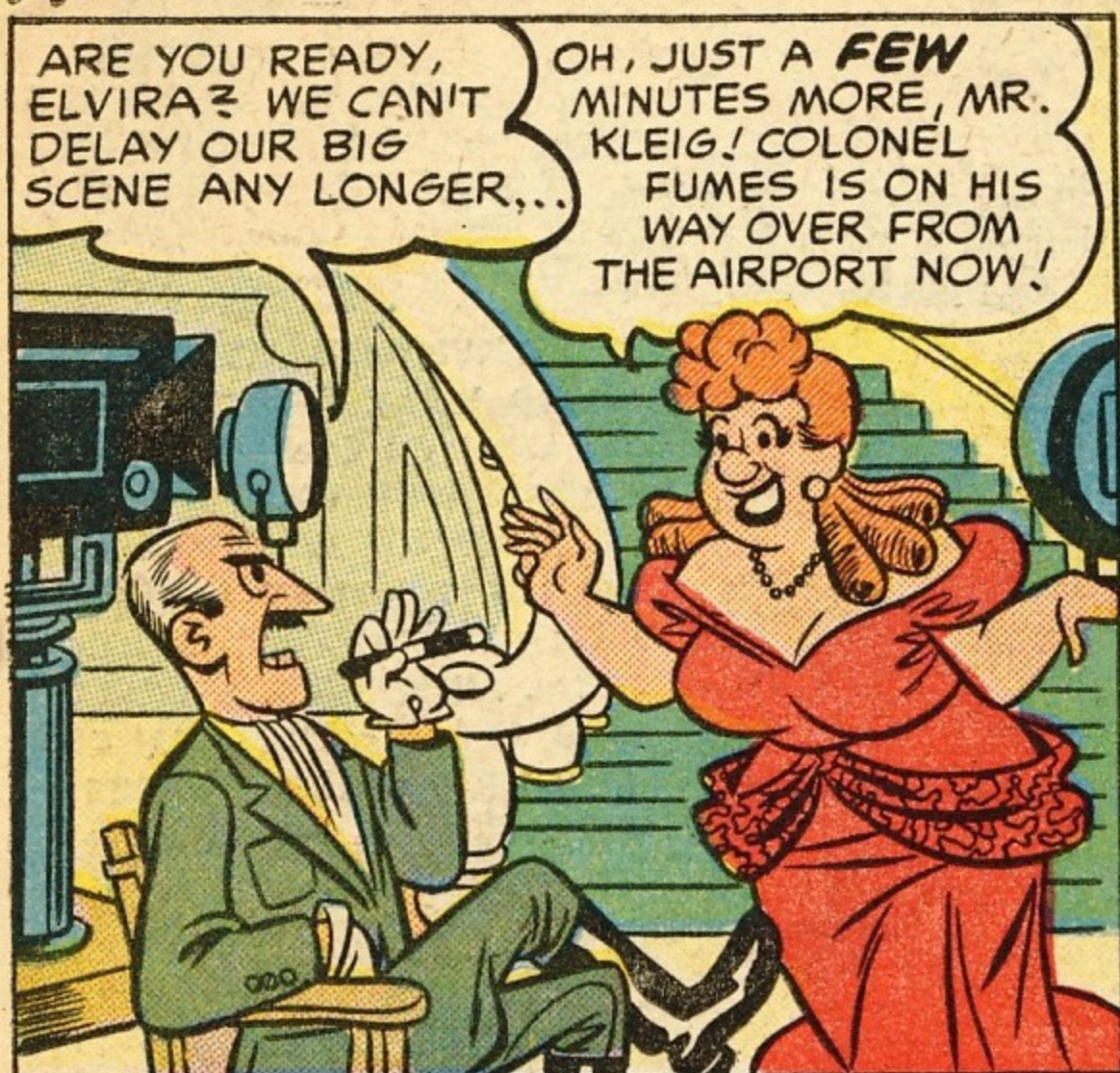
RUPPERT—WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE 'OOF' MEANS?

SOMETHING HIGHLY COMPLIMENTARY, I IMAGINE! BUT IT WON'T BE TOO LONG NOW BEFORE WE FIND OUT...



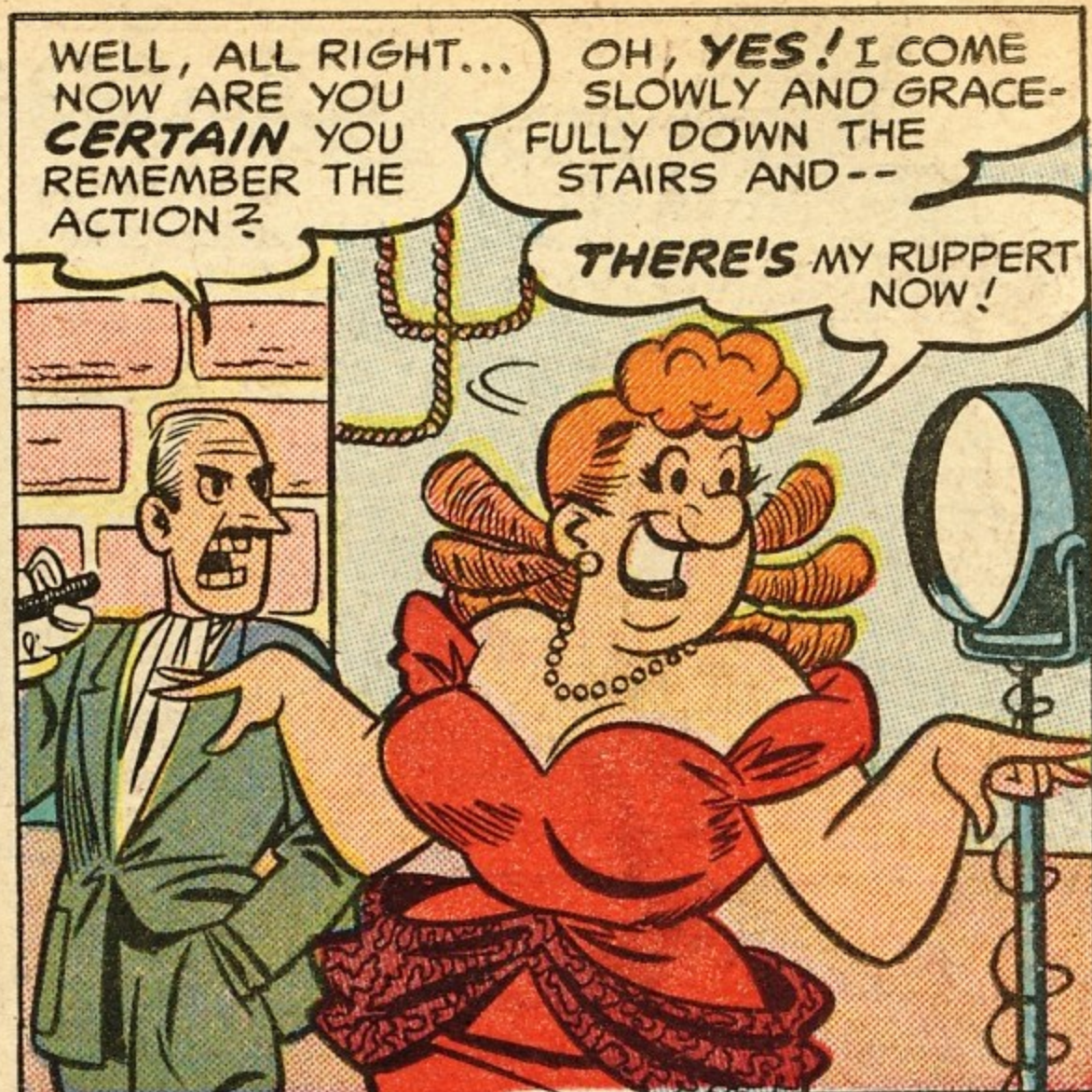
DAILY BLAST
ELVIRA FUMES, SENSATIONAL NEW DISCOVERY, FLYING TO HOLLYWOOD. SHE WILL BE KNOWN AS THE 'OOF GIRL!'

A WEEK LATER, IN HOLLYWOOD...



ARE YOU READY, ELVIRA? WE CAN'T DELAY OUR BIG SCENE ANY LONGER...

OH, JUST A **FEW** MINUTES MORE, MR. KLEIG! COLONEL FUMES IS ON HIS WAY OVER FROM THE AIRPORT NOW!



WELL, ALL RIGHT... NOW ARE YOU **CERTAIN** YOU REMEMBER THE ACTION?

OH, **YES!** I COME SLOWLY AND GRACEFULLY DOWN THE STAIRS AND--

THERE'S MY RUPPERT NOW!



RUPPERT, DARLING! YOU GOT HERE JUST IN TIME!

WHO IS THAT?

IT'S MRS. FUMES, SIR!



YOU **ANGEL!** COMING ALL THE WAY OUT TO HOLLYWOOD TO WATCH ME TAKE MY FIRST STEP ON THE LADDER TO **FAME!**

HOPE THEY RE-INFORCED THE LADDER!

AND BEFORE LONG...



NOW!



OOOF!

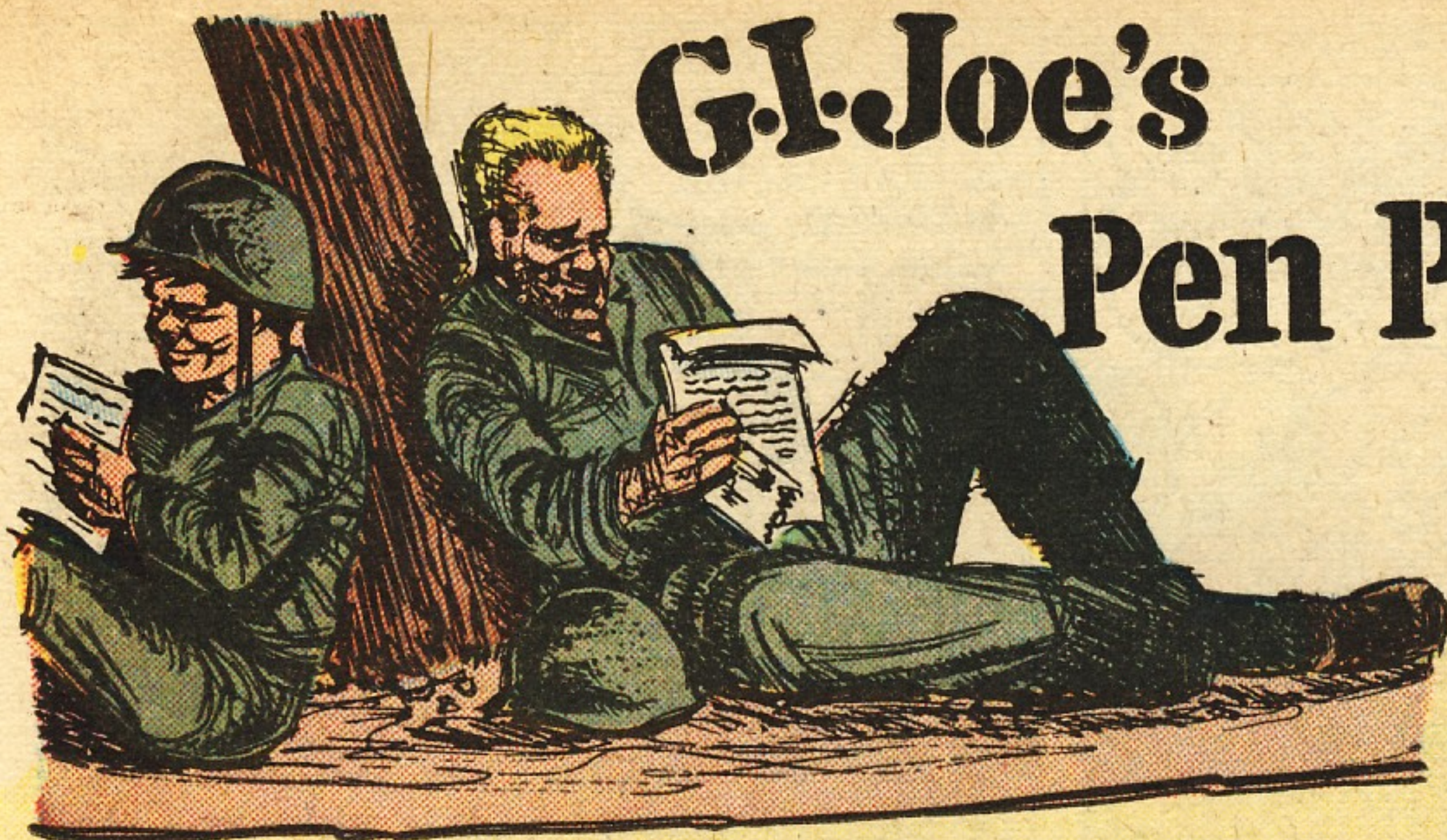


BACK AT CAMP...

TURN AROUND, WINDY! I FEEL LIKE EXPLAININ' THE MEANIN' OF 'OOOF' TO YOU AGAIN!

END

G.I. Joe's Pen Pals



OUR SERVICEMEN ALL OVER THE WORLD WANT AND NEED MAIL. THE LEAST WE CAN DO IS TO CO-OPERATE WITH THEM. THE CHARACTER OF THE CORRESPONDENTS WE LIST ON THESE PAGES HAS BEEN VOUCHERED FOR BY THEIR LOCAL AUTHORITIES. SERVICEMEN WHO ARE INTERESTED CAN CONTACT THESE CORRESPONDENTS DIRECTLY.

FRANCES ALDRIDGE, RR 2, BOX 149A, ALAMOSA, COLORADO . . . "I would like to write to some GI's and will answer all letters I receive. I am 16 years old, have dark blonde hair and blue-green eyes. I love all kinds of sports, especially horseback riding. I have a brother in service, and I know how the boys feel about mail."

★ ★ ★

MARCELLA BEATTY, ROUTE #2, GREENFIELD, OHIO . . . 16 years old, 5 feet, 2 inches tall, weighs 110 pounds. Blue eyes, blonde hair. "I would like to write to some G.I.'s because I know they like to receive letters from home."

★ ★ ★

MINNIE LEE BROCK, BOX 124, LINDALE, GEORGIA . . . "I would enjoy writing to some of the G.I.'s since they are doing us a great service, which we certainly appreciate. I am 18 years of age, brown hair, brown eyes, weigh 116 pounds and I am 5 feet, 2½ inches tall. I enjoy dancing, swimming, writing and many other activities."

★ ★ ★

EILEEN BROUGHAM, BOX 806, NORTH JAY, MAINE . . . 17 years old, brown hair, brown eyes, 4 feet, 11 inches tall, weighs 108 pounds. "I like all sports, especially football, basketball and fishing. I know how lonely our servicemen are, and I would like to do my share to help cheer them up."

★ ★ ★

JANET BROWN, 1513 ARLINGTON AVE., FLINT, MICH. . . . 16 years old, 5 feet, 6 inches tall. Blonde hair, green eyes, weighs 121 pounds. Hobbies: All sports, writing letters. "I would like to do my best to send news from home to our boys serving all over the world."

★ ★ ★

MILDRED CONTRERAS, BOX 52, NEWLIN, TEXAS . . . 21 years old . . . Is interested in corresponding with servicemen. Will answer all letters promptly.

BERNICE CHAMBERS, 311 EAST 89th ST., NEW YORK 28, N. Y. . . . 19 years old, 5 feet, 6 inches tall. Brown hair, blue eyes. "I'm a bookkeeper. Like to swim, dance, like most all kinds of sports. I'm good at some, bad at others. But it's fun. I like to ice skate, but I'm afraid I don't stay on my feet too long . . . Hope to hear from someone."

★ ★ ★

CLARA DEAN, RT. 3, BOX 294, PLACERVILLE, CALIF. . . . 16 years old, 5 feet, 8 inches tall. Brown hair, brown eyes. "Would like to write to any service guy or gal. Gotta help some way."

★ ★ ★

MARILYN DRUKTANIS, 1609 SOUTH 50th AVE., CICERO, ILL. . . . 16 years old, 5 feet, 11 inches tall, weighs 155 pounds. Blonde hair, blue eyes. "I like all sports, especially baseball. I also enjoy dancing and writing letters. I'll be very glad to answer all the letters I receive."

★ ★ ★

CAROLYN GARNER, BOX 2076, PARKER, ARIZONA . . . "I am 5-feet, 2½ inches tall, blue-green eyes and dark brown hair. I am 19 years of age. Writing letters is my favorite pastime and I would like very much to write to boys in Korea or other foreign countries. I have quite a few pen pals in foreign countries and in America and I am fond of corresponding with them. I have a very good friend in the service and I know how much 'letters from home' means to him."

★ ★ ★

VIRGINIA GEIWITZ, R.D. #2, SHARPSVILLE, PENNA. . . . "I will answer all letters I receive, no matter where they come from. I will write to those overseas, in hospitals or anywhere in the States. I am 19 years old, 5 feet, 5 inches tall, weigh 122 pounds. I have brown hair and brown eyes. I like swimming, skating and, above everything else, dancing. I hope to hear from some of the boys very shortly."

GLORIA JOHNSON, BOX 34, CODEFFROY, ORANGE COUNTY, NEW YORK . . . 16 years old, 5 feet, 2 inches tall. Brown hair, brown eyes. "My hobbies are stamp collecting, writing to pen pals, cooking, sewing and reading. I like all sports, especially baseball. I would like to correspond with G.I.'s and will gladly answer all letters I receive."

★ ★ ★

MARILYN KEY, 210 EAST 95th ST., NEW YORK, N. Y. . . . "I am a brunette with brown eyes and I am 16 years old. I weigh 125 pounds and am 5 feet 3 inches tall. I was born in New York City and my main recreations are swimming and dancing. I would like to correspond with any lonely G.I. who is eager to receive mail."

★ ★ ★

CARLENE KLEE, BOX 371, NEFFS, OHIO . . . "I am 16 years old, 5 feet, 7 inches tall, weigh 112 pounds. I have red hair and blue eyes. I would like to write to boys in service, especially those in Korea. Writing letters is my hobby. I would like to make some fellow happy by writing to him."

★ ★ ★

KAY LE SAGE, 1122 QUEEN ST., REGINA, SASK., CANADA . . . "I enjoy writing letters and especially enjoy receiving them. It would give me great pleasure to write to a boy in the Armed Forces. I am 5 feet, 2 inches in height. I have black hair and blue eyes. My favorite sports are rugby, hockey and baseball. I also enjoy reading, classical and popular music. I would like to thank you for this chance to correspond with servicemen. I think it's a wonderful idea."

★ ★ ★

ARLINE LINDH, RT. 2, BOX 494, GRANTS PASS, OREGON . . . "I am 27 years old and would like to write to servicemen. I enjoy writing letters, especially to the boys in service. I am most anxious to correspond with men in the Armed Forces. Please answer soon."

★ ★ ★

DARLENE L. MACKIN, 240 EAST DUNCAN ST., COLUMBUS, OHIO . . . "I have light red hair and blue eyes. I am 22 years old, 5 feet, 7 inches tall. I like swimming, bowling and love to write letters. I will be glad to send pictures of myself to any fellow who writes to me. I would like to hear from boys in the service, but mostly, I would like to correspond with those stationed in Korea and Germany."

HELEN LORENZ, RR 1, LEMMON, SOUTH DAKOTA . . . "I am 16 years of age, have blue eyes, blonde hair, weigh 125 pounds, and I am 5 feet, 7 inches tall. I like to do most anything and will gladly write to any G.I."

★ ★ ★

ADELE MESZAROS, 64 NORTH PENNSYLVANIA AVE., MORRISVILLE, PENNA. . . . 16 years of age, 5 feet, 6 inches tall. Blonde hair, blue eyes. "I love to dance, skate and write letters. I'll be waiting for letters from the boys, and promise to answer all I receive."

★ ★ ★

KAREN M. ORR, BOX 1764, GRAND COULEE, WASH. . . . 16 years old, 5 feet, 5 inches tall, weighs 130 pounds. Dark brown hair and hazel eyes. "I love to dance, swim and play tennis. I would like to correspond with the boys in service and help to cheer them up. My friends call me 'Kitten.'"

★ ★ ★

BARBARA STERNAD, 306 BLOW ST., DE SOTO, MISSOURI . . . "I am 16 years old, 5 feet, 6 inches tall. Brown hair and brown eyes. I like to cook, sew, swim, dance and skate. I would like to receive mail from a G.I. in Korea."

★ ★ ★

BILLYE STEVENS, 4057 PRINGLE, FLINT, MICHIGAN . . . 18 years old, 5 feet, 2 inches tall, blonde hair, blue eyes. "I like dancing, roller skating and basketball. I will answer all letters I receive. That's the least I can do for the boys in service. Maybe I can help somebody who is very lonely. By the way, my friends call me 'Candy.'"

★ ★ ★

GAYLE SURPRENANT, 61 VICTORIA ST., SPRINGFIELD, MASS. . . . "I know how the boys in service like to receive mail since I've had many friends and relatives in the Armed Forces. I'll be glad to write to any of the boys in service and I will answer all letters I receive. I'm 16 years old, 5 feet, 4 inches tall. I have brown hair and brown eyes. I enjoy roller skating, music and writing letters."

★ ★ ★

MARY ANN WALNOHA, 1110 COMMERCE ST., WELLSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA . . . "I am 16 years old, have very dark brown hair, gray eyes. I weigh 122 pounds and I'm 5 feet, 6 inches tall. Writing letters is my favorite pastime and I have some pen pals throughout the country. I also like to read and swim. I promise to answer each and every letter."

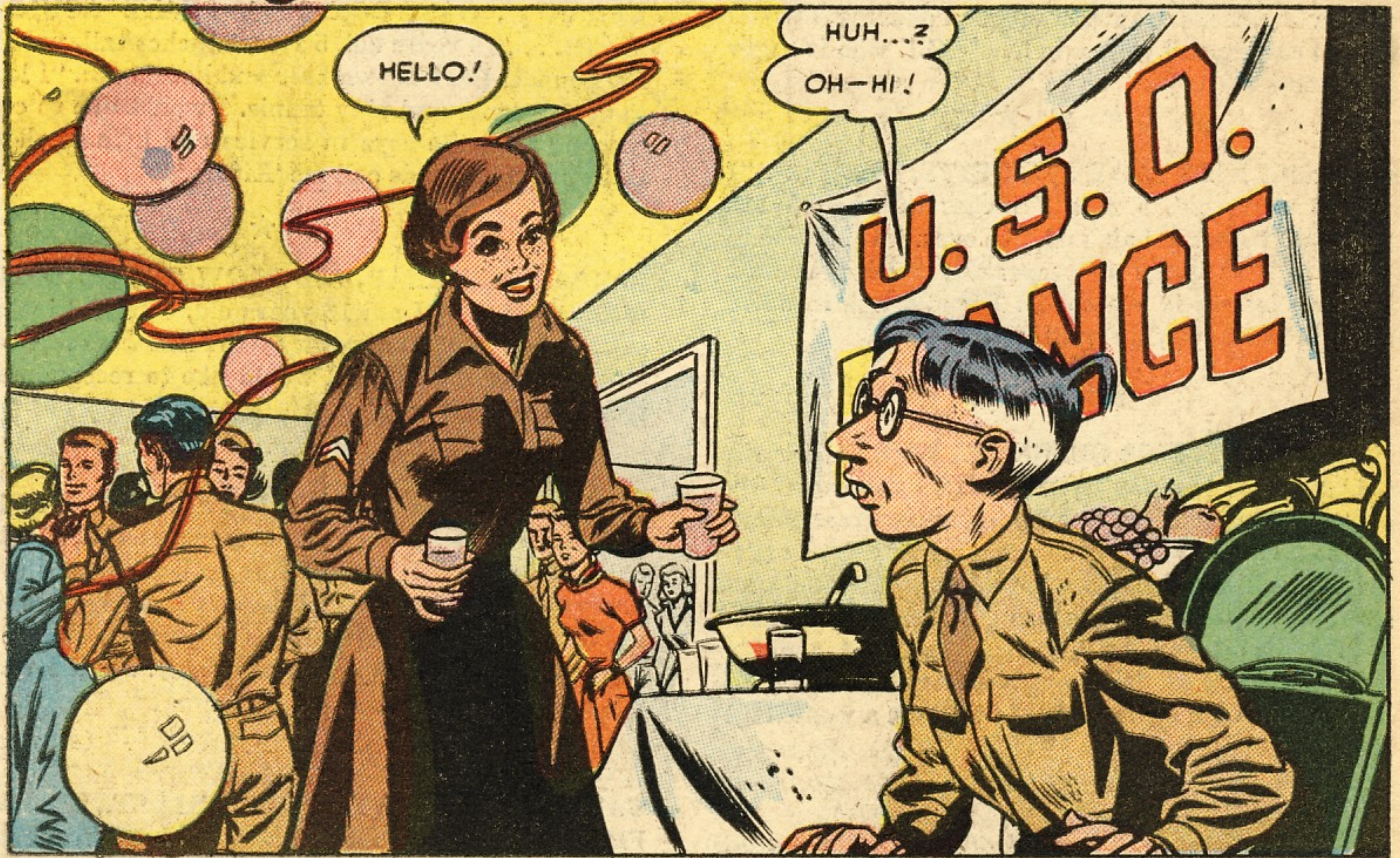
• • •
THIS IS YOUR FEATURE—SEND US YOUR LETTERS!

The address: G.I. JOE'S PEN PALS, ZIFF-DAVIS PUBLISHING CO., 366 MADISON AVE., N. Y. C.

G.I. Joe

The Ugly Gigolo

ALVIN OATIS WAS THE UGLY DUCKLING OF "BAKER" COMPANY. THE BOYS TRIED TO MAKE HIM UNDERSTAND THAT "BEAUTY IS ONLY SKIN DEEP," BUT THEIR ADVICE FELL ON DEAF EARS. ALVIN JUST BROODED AND FELT SORRY FOR HIMSELF, JUST AS HE IS DOING NOW AS WE SEE HIM "SITTING ONE OUT" AT A SERVICE DANCE...





YOU DANCE NICELY...

OATIS...ALVIN OATIS, BUT THE BOYS CALL ME ---

MY NAME'S EILEEN! WHAT'S YOURS?



"ALVIN..." THAT'S A NICE NAME! I LIKE IT!

Y'DO? I DON'T!



WHY NOT?

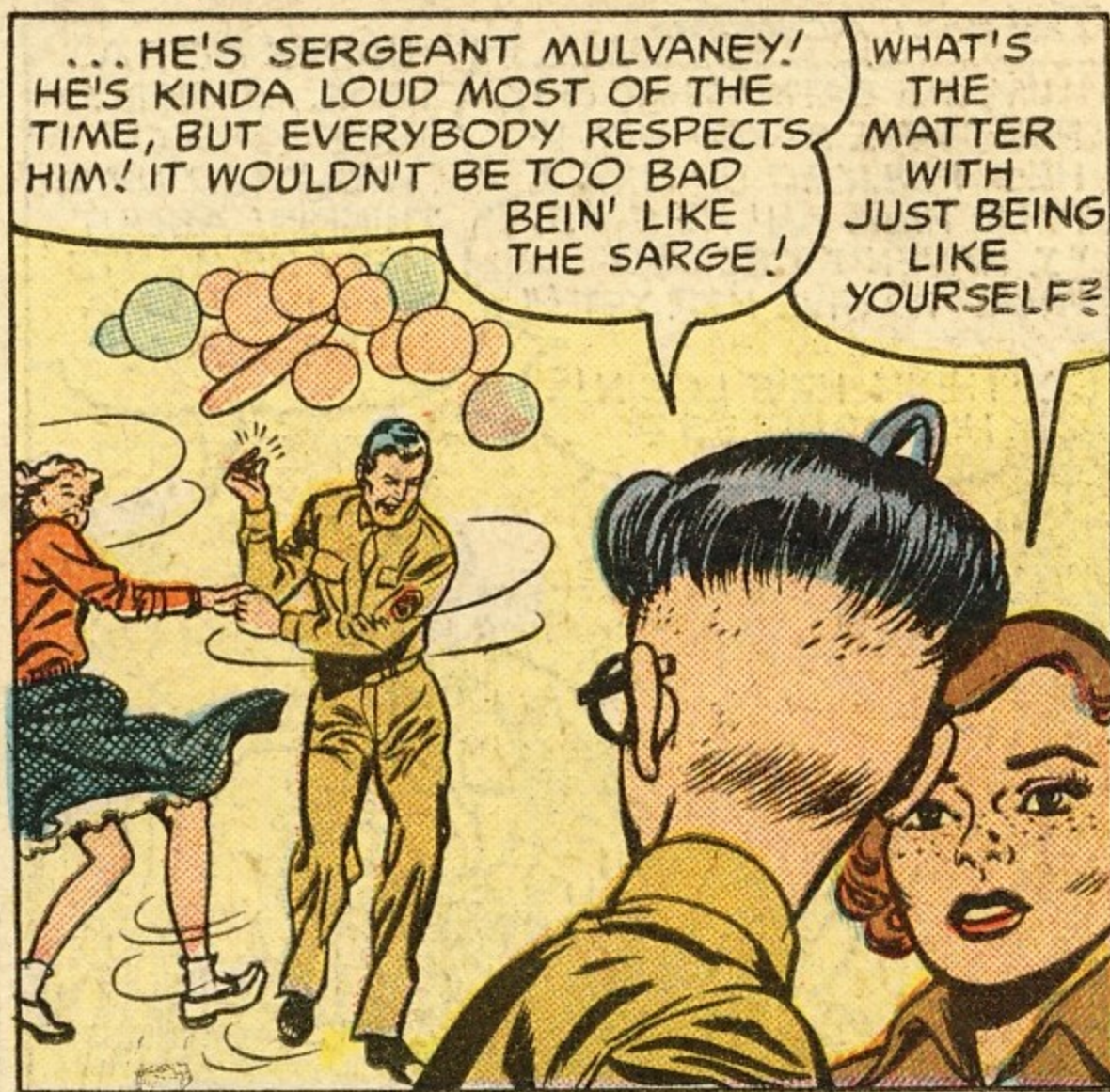
THERE'S NOT MUCH OF ANYTHING ABOUT ME I LIKE!

LOOK... SEE THAT GUY OVER THERE...?



... THAT'S JOE BURCH! I'D LIKE TO BE LIKE **HIM** IF I COULD! **EVERYBODY** LIKES JOE!

OR EVEN LIKE **THAT** GUY OVER THERE...



... HE'S SERGEANT MULVANEY! HE'S KINDA LOUD MOST OF THE TIME, BUT EVERYBODY RESPECTS HIM! IT WOULDN'T BE TOO BAD BEIN' LIKE THE SARGE!

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH JUST BEING LIKE YOURSELF?



LIKE **ME**? WHO'D EVER WANT **THAT**?

I THINK **YOU** OUGHT TO WANT IT! IT WOULDN'T BE MUCH OF A WORLD IF EVERY PERSON IN IT WAS JUST LIKE **THE NEXT**.— WOULD IT?



I DON'T KNOW... I NEVER THOUGHT OF IT! BUT DO **YOU** KNOW SOMETHIN'? I-I LIKE YOU! DO YOU SUPPOSE I COULD MAYBE EVER GET TO SEE YOU AGAIN?

I'D LIKE THAT, ALVIN! YES, I'D LIKE TO SEE YOU AGAIN VERY MUCH!

THAT NIGHT, BACK AT CAMP...



...AN' YOU KNOW SOMETHIN' ELSE, JOE? SHE SAYS I CAN SEE HER AGAIN! SHE-SHE EVEN SAID SHE **LIKES** ME!

THAT'S SWELL, UGLY! AN' SHE'S REAL PRETTY, TOO!

I THINK I'M GONNA **GIVE** HER SOMETHIN', JOE! YOU KNOW - A **PRESENT!** THAT'S WHAT GUYS DO...

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT, UGLY! SOME GIRLS JUST DON'T CARE FOR PRESENTS! MAYBE AFTER YOU KNOW HER A WHILE...

I'LL HAVE TO THINK ABOUT IT, JOE... WELL, G'NIGHT! THANKS FOR LISTENIN'!



THE NEXT MORNING....



WHAT'S EATIN' THAT GUY, BURCH? I ASKED HIM IF HE'D POLICED UP LIKE I TOLD HIM, AN' HE SAYS, "I HAVEN'T DECIDED WHAT TO GIVE HER YET!"

Y'THINK HE'S LOSIN' HIS MARBLES?

UGLY'S GOT A GIRL, SARGE! HE'S KIND OF WRAPPED UP IN THINKIN' ABOUT HER! HE WANTS TO GIVE HER A **PRESENT!**

WELL, WHY DIDN'T HE **SAY** SO? IF IT'S DAME TROUBLE, **MULVANEY'S** THE MAN TO CONSULT!

WHAT DO YA KNOW? UGLY OATIS HAS GOT HIMSELF A **DAME!**



WHY DIDN'T YA TELL ME WHAT'S AILIN' YA, GIGOLO? IF Y'WANNA GIVE YER CHICK A PRESENT, WELL, I JUST HAPPEN TO KNOW WHERE YA CAN GET SOME REAL FANCY—

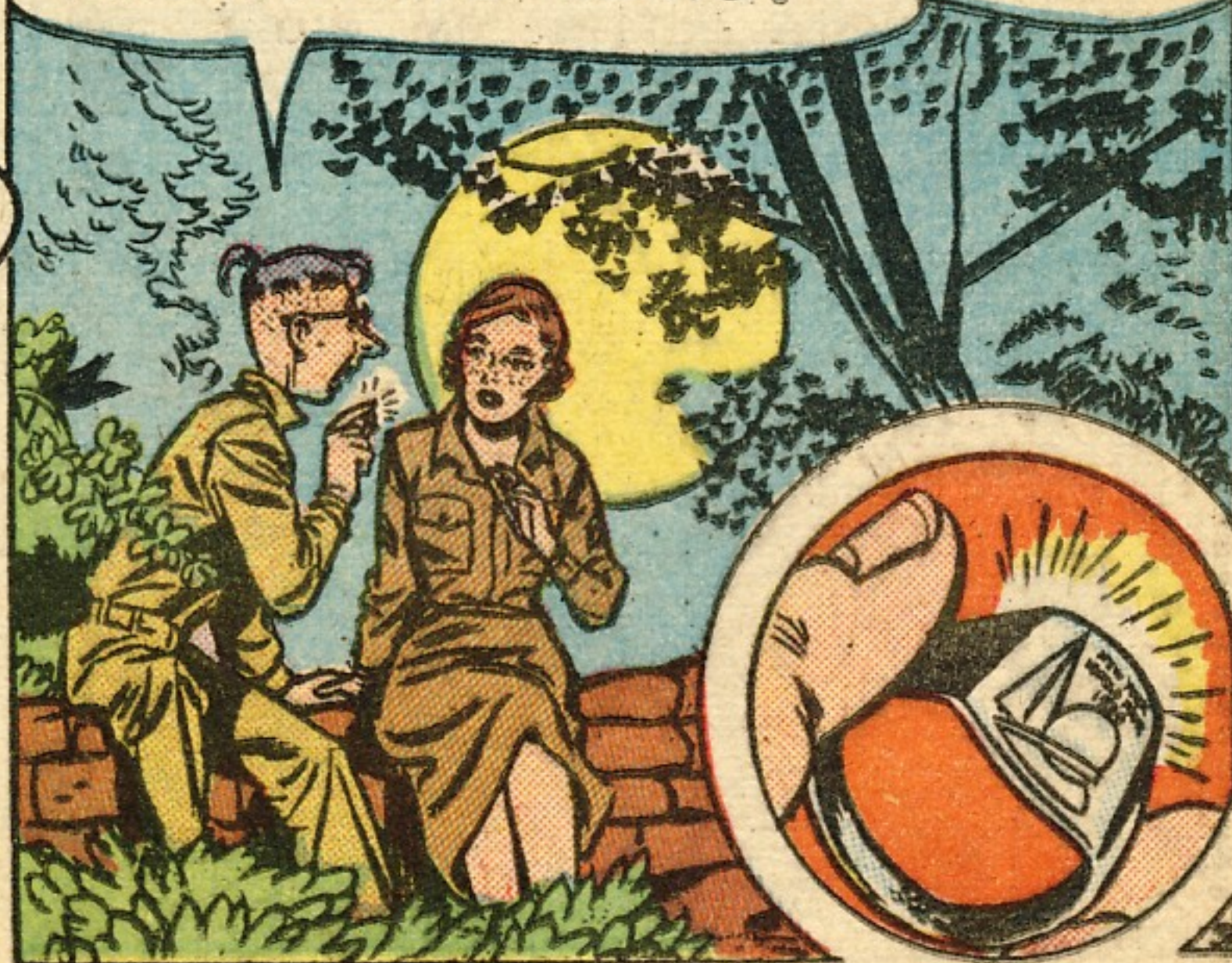
GEE, THANKS, SARGE, BUT I'VE DECIDED WHAT I'M GOIN' TO GIVE EILEEN...AN' IT'S GOIN' TO BE THE MOST VALUABLE THING I GOT!

I SURE HOPE SHE LIKES IT...IT MEANS A LOT TO ME!



AND A WEEK LATER....

...SO WOULD YOU ACCEPT THIS FROM ME, EILEEN? I'D LIKE FOR YOU TO HAVE IT...EVEN **WEAR** IT, MAYBE! IT COST ME **THIRTEEN DOLLARS AND TWENTY-TWO CENTS!**





IT'S LOVELY, ALVIN... JUST **LOVELY!** BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW MUCH IT COST! THAT DOESN'T **EVER** MATTER!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BOTHER CALLIN' ME "ALVIN," EILEEN! CALL ME "UGLY!" ALL THE GUYS DO!

"**UGLY?**" WHAT A **TERRIBLE** NAME! HOW CAN YOU LET THEM CALL YOU THAT?

I NEVER THINK ABOUT IT! IT'S - WELL, IT'S JUST A NAME, THAT'S ALL! I DON'T EVER--

THEY CALL YOU A NAME LIKE THAT AND YOU **STAND** FOR IT! WHAT'S **WORSE**, YOU WANT TO BE **LIKE** THEM! OH, I'VE NEVER BEEN SO ANGRY IN MY LIFE!

GOOD NIGHT, ALVIN OATIS-- AND REMEMBER IT'S **ALVIN** NOT **UGLY** OATIS I'LL EVER WANT TO SEE AGAIN!

BUT, EILEEN...!



BACK AT CAMP....

...YEAH, SHE KEPT THE RING, ALL RIGHT, JOE... BUT SHE WAS SURE SORE WHEN SHE LEFT ME! I DON'T KNOW WHAT I COULD'VE **DONE** THAT WAS WRONG!

SLEEP ON IT, UGLY... IF YOU **DID** DO ANYTHIN' MAYBE YOU'LL REMEMBER IT IN THE MORNING...



BUT WHEN MORNING CAME....

OF ALL THE CRACKED-BRAIN STUPES! SLIPPIN' TH' CHICK THAT LOUSY RING! DAMES DON'T WANT **JUNK**, OATIS! THEY WANT EXPENSIVE STUFF! STUFF THAT'LL MAKE EVERY OTHER DAME WANT TO SCRATCH THEIR EYES OUT!

NOW, WILL YA **LISTEN** WHILE I WISE YA UP ON HOW TO OPERATE?

I SURE DIDN'T THINK MY RING WAS **JUNK**...



A FEW NIGHTS LATER...

...AN' I WAS PRETTY SURE YOU'D SEE ME AGAIN-- SOONER OR LATER!

WELL, GO AHEAD-- OPEN YOUR PRESENTS! I WENT TO A LOTTA TROUBLE GETTIN' 'EM, BUT I FIGURE NOTHIN'S TOO GOOD FOR A DAME-- ER-- FOR A GIRL LIKE YOU! NO, SIR! WHEN UGLY OATIS SETS OUT TO--



GET OUT! GET OUT! I DON'T EVER WANT TO SEE YOU AGAIN! **DO YOU HEAR?**

EILEEN...!



THE NEXT MORNING....

SHE **DID** SAY SHE LIKED ME THAT FIRST NIGHT, JOE! BUT EVER SINCE THEN--

WELL, GIRLS TAKE ON KIND OF FUNNY SOME TIMES, UGLY! SHE'LL SNAP OUT OF IT!

WELL, I'VE GOTTA GET GOIN'...AN ERRAND FOR THE LOOTENANT...



BUT JOE MANAGED TO STRETCH THE TIME ALLOWED FOR HIS "ERRAND..."

CORPORAL EILEEN MARSH WILL BE RIGHT OVER, PRIVATE! WILL YOU HAVE A SEAT?

THANK YOU, MA'AM...



AND BEFORE LONG...

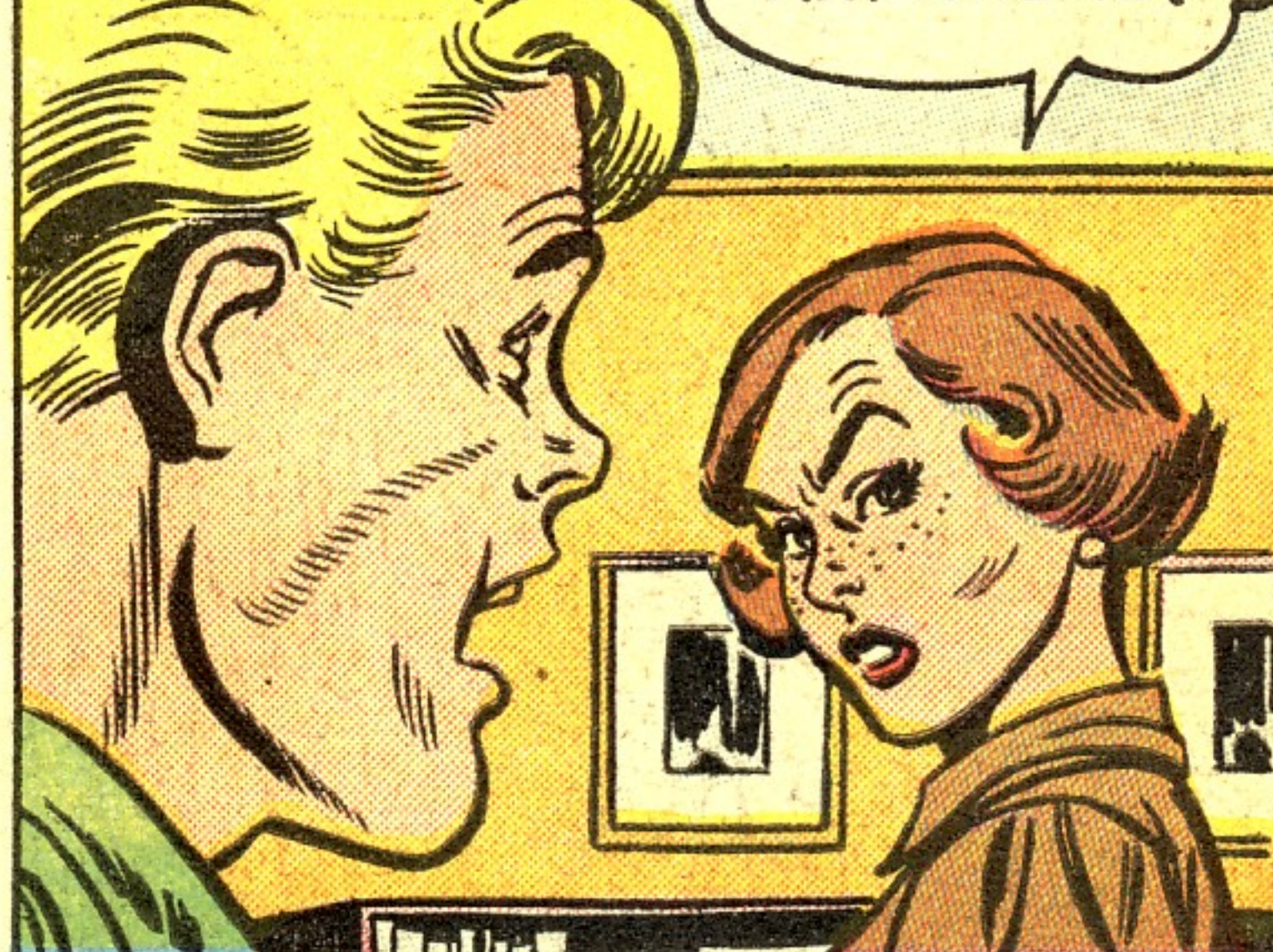
I'M JOE BURCH, CORPORAL MARSH! I JUST WANT TO--

YOU DON'T HAVE TO INTRODUCE YOURSELF, PRIVATE BURCH! I REMEMBER YOU VERY WELL!



YOU **DO**? BUT WE NEVER--

NO, WE'VE NEVER MET-- BUT SOMEONE I KNOW WANTS SO MUCH TO BE **LIKE** YOU THAT I'D KNOW YOU **ANYWHERE!**



BE LIKE **ME?**

AND I HOPE HE GETS HIS WISH! WHEN HE DOES, MAYBE HE CAN FIND A **GIRL** WHO'S JUST LIKE ALL THE OTHERS YOU MUST KNOW!

HONEST-- I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE--

OH, DON'T PULL YOUR INNOCENT ACT ON ME! YOU PROBABLY CAME HERE TO GET ALL THOSE HORRIBLE PRESENTS BACK! WELL, YOU NEEDN'T HAVE BOTHERED...



...YOU CAN TELL PRIVATE ALVIN "UGLY" OATIS FOR ME THAT THEY'VE **ALREADY** BEEN MAILED TO HIM! AND YOU CAN TELL HIM THAT IF HE EVER **DOES** LEARN TO BE HIMSELF-- WELL, AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, IT'LL BE **MUCH TOO LATE!**

AND **FURTHER-MORE...**



LATER THAT SAME DAY....

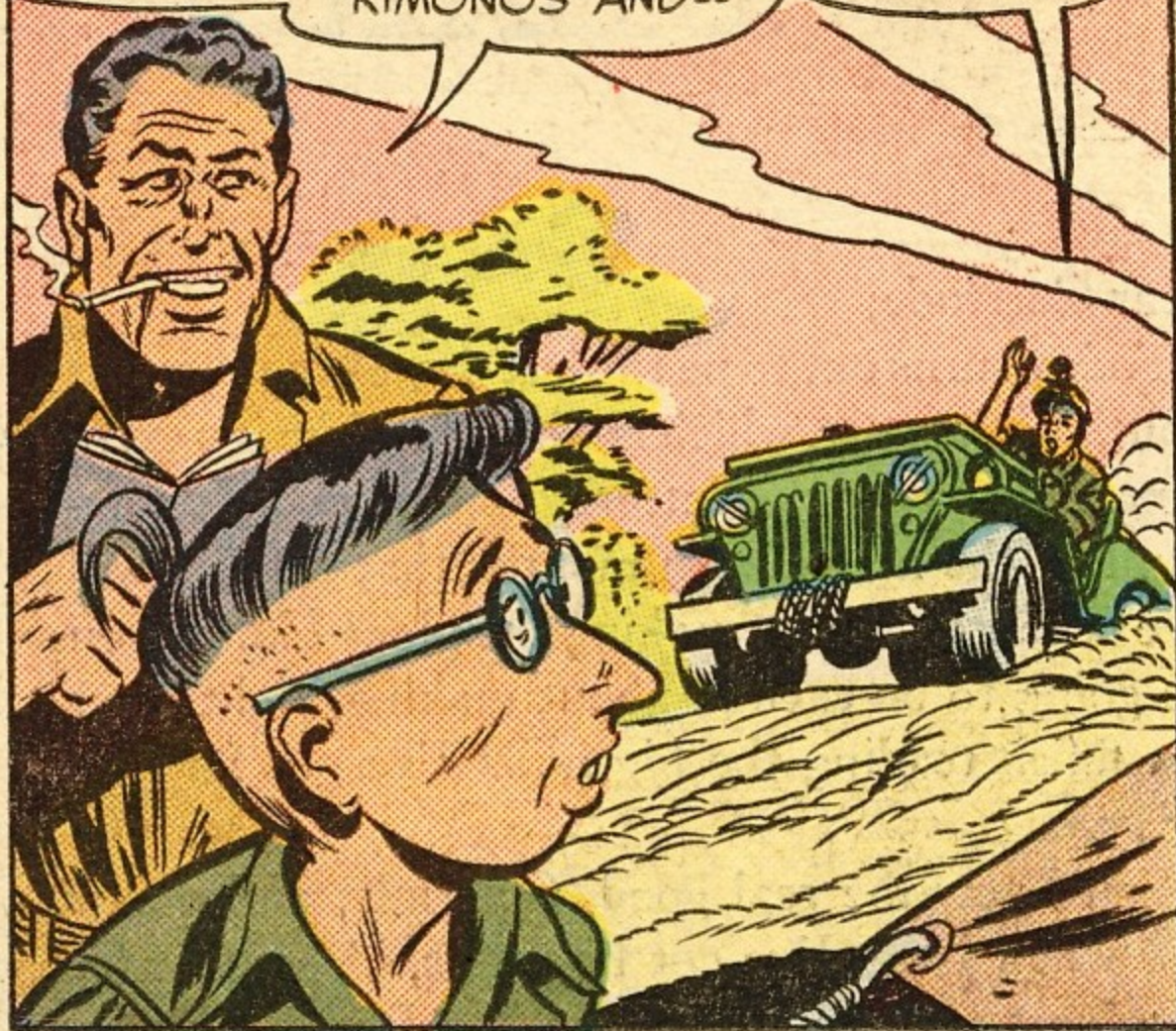
NOW, **HERE'S**

A REAL DISH, UGLY! AN' I WON'T MIND YOUR USIN' MY NAME WITH HER AT ALL! BUT YOU GOTTA REMEMBER SHE LIKES **PLENTY** OF ATTENTION....!



... REAL **THOUGHTFUL** ATTENTION... LIKE LOTSA SILK KIMONOS AND--

HEY, **ALVIN!**



SOMEBODY CALLIN' **YOU?**

IT'S JOE...

I'VE GOT SOMETHIN' FOR YOU, ALVIN...

...SOMETHIN' FROM EILEEN!

YOU'VE **SEEN** HER?



SAY WHAT'S WITH THIS "ALVIN" STUFF, BURCH? ARE YOU--

KNOCK IT OFF, SARGE-- YOU AND I HAVE LOUSED HIM UP ENOUGH AS IT IS!

LOOK, ALVIN-- IT'S NOT **YOU** EILEEN'S SORE AT... SHE'S MAD AT WHAT YOU THINK **SHE** IS!



SHE'S DIFFERENT?

PLENTY! — SHE DOESN'T WANT **PRESENTS**, ALVIN — SHE WANTS **YOU**! BUT YOU LIKE YOU **ARE** — NOT TRYIN' TO BE SOMEBODY ELSE! SHE CAN'T SEE YOU AGAIN OUT HERE — SHE'S BEIN' TRANSFERRED HOME... BUT SHE ASKED ME TO GIVE YOU THIS!



SHE SAID NEXT TIME SHE SEES YOU, SHE WANTS YOU TO GIVE HER THAT RING ALL OVER AGAIN... AND SHE WANTS YOU TO GIVE IT TO HER **RIGHT!** THAT IS, IF YOU STILL WANT HER TO HAVE IT...

DO I? DIDN'T I TELL YOU IT WAS A MAGIC RING, JOE? ISN'T THAT WHAT I **ALWAYS** SAID?

DAMES!!!



DEAR GERTRUDE

Tokyo, Japan
February 28, 1954

Dear Gertrude,

Today turns out to be the last day of the shortest month in the year, which is why I feel like it's extra important to get this letter written to you, on account of the next eleven months that are left will give us more time for making the plans I know you are going to be excited about making, right after you finish reading the big news I've got for you today.

You know me real good, Gertrude, and about how when I say I've got big news, I've never let you down yet. Anyway, not when I could help it. It wasn't always my fault that the big news sometimes turned out to be sort of small, or didn't even happen at all, but this time it's different, Gertrude, believe you me. Just wait and see.

It's different because it's all at the same time the *littlest* news and the very *biggest* news that's ever happened to me. To both of us, I had ought to say, because it's sure got to do with you, too.

Well, have I got you all het up and excited, Gertrude, to know what the news is? That's sure what I want to do, babe! You know me, and about how I always think surprises are much more fun than knowing about things ahead of time, because if you know about them ahead of time, then where's the surprise by the time it comes around for you to be told what the surprise was going to be?

Well, here's my big surprise for you, Gertrude, and I sure hope you're sitting down some place good and comfortable when you read it. Not because you ain't going to like what I've got to tell you, on account of I know you real good, too, Gertrude, but because it's going to come as such a great *big* surprise that if you're sitting down you won't have so much distance left to fall on the floor.

Here it is, Gertrude! Get ready:

You and me are going to be a *father* and a *mother*!

Yep, those words you have just read, Gertrude, are every one of them true, and that's why I mentioned all those other months that are left in the year, because it's going to take a lot of time to make all our plans, and knowing you like I do, babe, I know you'll want to have everything all ready, like some store-bought clothes and things

(Orville Cot says Size 5 or 6 ought to be about right) for the day when I finally get home and you can get to meet our son.

Gosh, Gertrude, just writing that down sends whole bunches of shivers up and down the middle of my back, like I imagine reading what I've said is doing to yours.

Just wait till you see him, Gertrude! Honest, he's the funniest looking thing! No, I don't mean funny exactly—I guess it's just that I ain't so used to seeing what kids look like real close by, on account of not having seen so many of 'em for a long time while I was fighting, but now it's like they're all over the place, and I guess that's how I came to find our son for us, Gertrude, what with there being so many to choose from.

It happened like this, honey. Orville Cot and me were at the—

Gotta go, Gertrude. Orville just came in with some papers he says I'm supposed to look at. He says they're important, so I'll finish this tomorrow.

xxxxxxx (That means kisses)

Your ever-lovin'-husband-to-be,
Sam Cosgrove, Pvt., U. S. Army

★ ★ ★ Tokyo, Japan
March 1, 1954

Dear Gertrude,

Well, Orville Cot was right. Those papers he brought me yesterday were sure important, too. They were all full of questions about how old I am and how much money I make, and all the other kind of stuff they always put in papers like that, but it didn't bother me one bit, Gertrude (except the parts that were printed in Japanese, and I just left those alone). No, siree, I've filled out so many papers like that since being in the Army that I can practically do it in my sleep, which is what those papers Orville brought in yesterday nearly did to me, but I sure woke up fast when I came to the part where I had to fill in about you.

Gosh, Gertrude, it sure gave me a big thrill to put your name on the line right after where it said "MOTHER" and believe me, I sure wrote it in big. But there was a funny line that came after that where it asked about your "ASSETS." Well, I wanted to look up what it meant, but Orville said just to put down "cooking and sewing," which is what I did, because Orville's awful good with words and always knows what they mean.

Well, I guess by now, honey, you've caught on to what all those papers were for. Yep, they were the adoption papers for our son. Orville Cot went to a lot of trouble to get 'em for me, and now that they're all filled in he's taking them back while I'm writing this to you. No, siree; Orville Cot is my best buddy and there's nothing he won't do for me—or for *us*, now that we're going to be a real family, which brings me back to when I started telling you about how it happened that we're going to have this real son of our own.

It was about a week ago, Gertrude, and Orville and me were at the bus station, waiting for a bus, when a whole load of kids got driven up, and in a couple of seconds you could hardly move on account of maybe stepping on one of 'em. Well, Orville and me stood perfectly still, but all of a sudden I felt something hanging on to my leg. Naturally, I looked down, and there he was, Gertrude, looking right back up at me like he'd been looking for me all the time, and now that he found me he sure wasn't gonna let go.

When the woman in charge of all the kids came up and tried to get him to go with her, he just hung on harder and started to scream until the woman let go of him. Then he stopped and looked up at me some more.

The woman said something which Orville said meant the kid liked me, and I guess it was right then I got my big idea, honey, because Orville said the woman had just told him these kids were all orphans.

I tell you, Gertrude, if you could've been here and looked down at that little face you'd have got hold of the same big idea. It was like all of a sudden I could just *see* you taking him down to the Bon-Ton for a suit of clothes, or in to Dan Murray's for a haircut, which he sure needs but I don't think he'll mind when I explain it to him after I've taught him how to talk English.

Anyway, after I got my big idea, I picked him up and he hung on to my neck even harder than my leg, and I didn't mind a bit about the chocolate Orville gave him getting smeared all over my face. I asked Orville to get the name of the orphanage from the woman, which he did, and then I told him about what I was going to do.

That's the big thing about Orville, Gertrude. He didn't laugh at my idea, or tell me I was nuts, he just put a hand on my shoulder and told me it was a fine thing. He said maybe I should ought to write you and ask about it first, but I told Orville that I know you like you know me, and that we're way past having to *ask* each other about things.

Well, finally, of course, I had to give the kid back to the woman to take back to the orphanage, and he sure kicked up one big fuss, but I promised

him I'd be back for him, and maybe you won't believe this, Gertrude, but I think he understood. Anyway, he quit screaming and waved and waved while the woman was taking him away.

Right after that, naturally, Orville and me started in making plans and—oops! I promised to go meet Orville right now, honey, to find out if he delivered the papers all right. I'll tell you all about it tomorrow.

xxxxxxx (That means kisses)

Your ever-lovin'-husband-to-be,
Sam Cosgrove, Pvt., U. S. Army

★ ★ ★

Tokyo, Japan
March 9, 1954

Dear Gertrude,

It's been more than a week since my last letter, but I've been trying to figure out how to tell you that I guess you and me ain't going to be a father and mother after all. I know it's hard, Gertrude, but please try not to be too heartbroken.

I found out about it a couple of days after my last letter, when our C. O. called me in, and right away when I looked at him I know something was wrong. He was holding my adoption papers and looking real serious, and he gave me "At ease" a lot quicker than usual.

He showed me the papers and asked me if they were mine, and I told him they sure were, and then he cleared his throat and got up and went and stood looking out the window with his back to me. It was sort of a long time before he said anything, and when he finally did I had to listen real close to get it. Everything he said was real friendly, but then he came to the part where he said that on the papers your name wasn't the same as mine. I asked him how it could be the same when we both came from different families, and he coughed a lot, but finally he said our names *have* to be the same before we can make out any papers like those. In other words, you and me have got to be *already* married, Gertrude, before we can adopt.

Gosh, honey, I sure hope this don't hurt so much you can't get over it. It hurts me, too, but Orville and me have already sent a big package out to the kid at the orphanage, and maybe it's the best thing after all, if he stays with his own people. You and me'll make it up to each other after I get home.

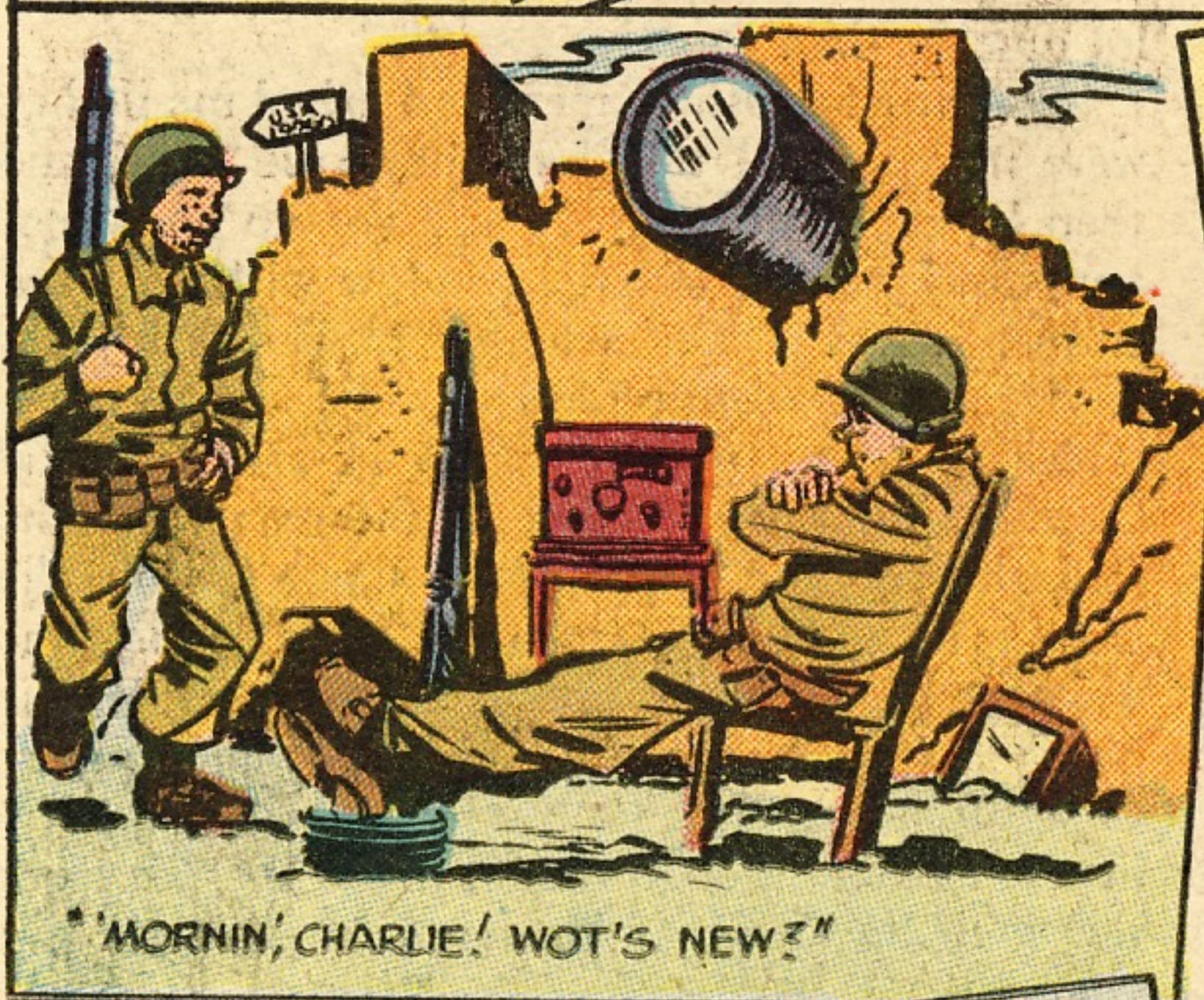
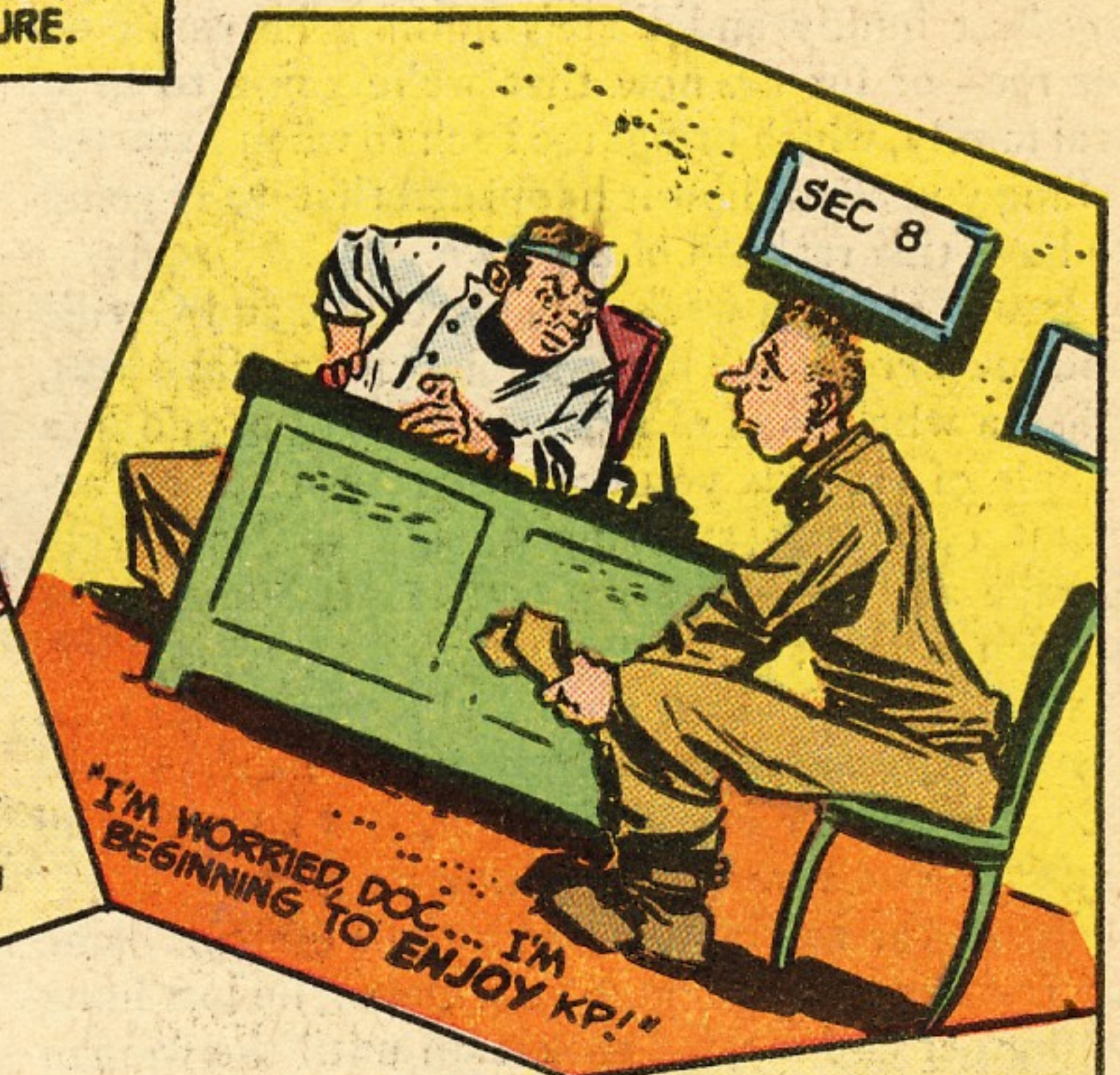
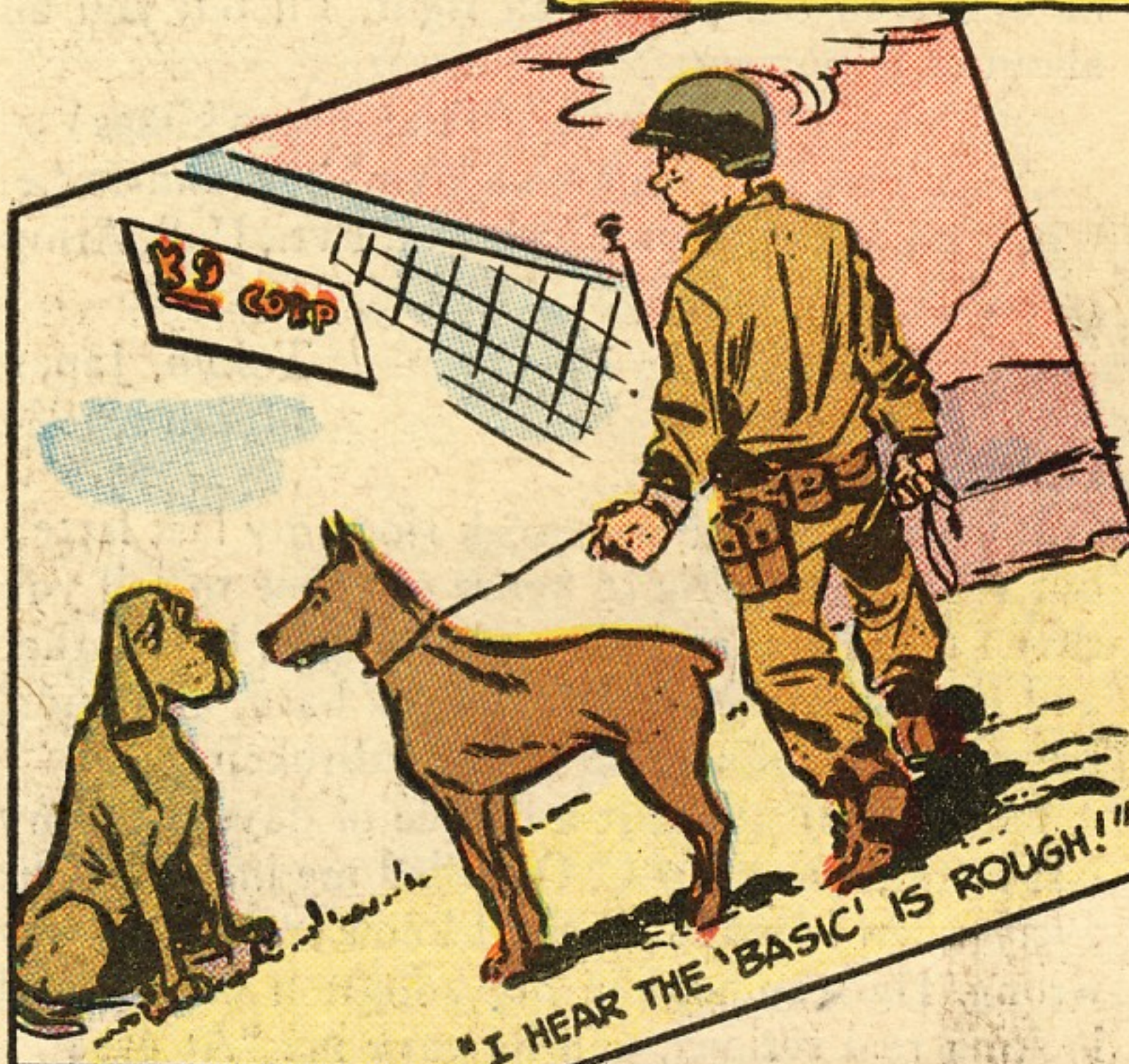
xxxxxxx (That means kisses)

Your ever-lovin'-husband-to-be,
Sam Cosgrove, Pvt., U. S. Army

The character Sam Cosgrove is fictitious.
Any resemblance to actual persons, living or
dead, is purely coincidental.

RESERVED-G.I.'S ONLY

"RESERVED-G.I.'S ONLY," THE WORLD
AS THE SERVICEMAN SEES IT. A
SPECIAL G.I. JOE FEATURE.

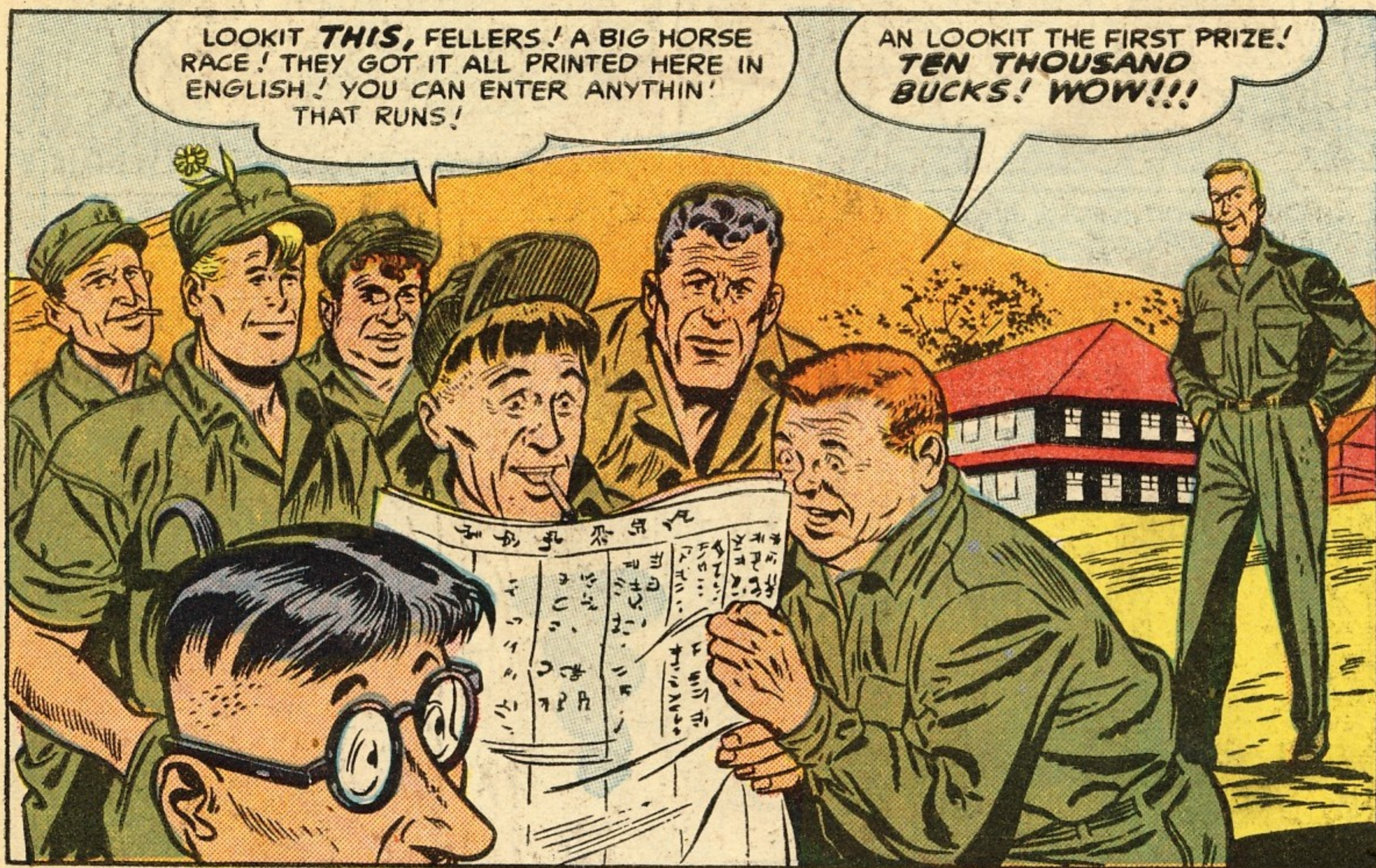


G.I. Joe

in

LOOK AT HIS TEETH!

MANY CENTURIES AGO, THE GREAT BARD, WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, PENNED THE IMMORTAL LINES; "A HORSE! A HORSE! MY KINGDOM FOR A HORSE!" AND TODAY, ALTHOUGH THERE'S NOT A KINGDOM AMONG THE LOT, THE BOYS OF "BAKER" COMPANY WERE WILLING TO SACRIFICE **THEIR** EQUIVALENT OF ONE TO OBTAIN THE FOUR-LEGGED CREATURE THAT SHAKESPEARE WROTE ABOUT. IT ALL HAPPENED WHEN HOOSIER HAWKINS SAW AN ITEM IN A JAPANESE NEWSPAPER ...



YEAH, BUT HAVE YOU SEEN **THIS**? WE GOT THE DOUGH, ALL RIGHT... BUT WHAT'S THE USE GETTIN' EXCITED? WHAT WE **AIN'T** GOT IS A HORSE!

THERE'S A HUNDRED DOLLAR ENTRY FEE!

AIN'T YOU GUYS LEARNED **YET** TO BRING YER PROBLEMS TO GOOD OLD "READY-MONEY" REILLY? IF NOT HAVIN' A LITTLE ITEM LIKE A **HORSE** IS ALL THAT'S BOTHERIN' YA...

GET A HORSE FOR YA? IT HURTS ME THAT YA'D EVEN ASK!—BUT IT'S GONNA COST!

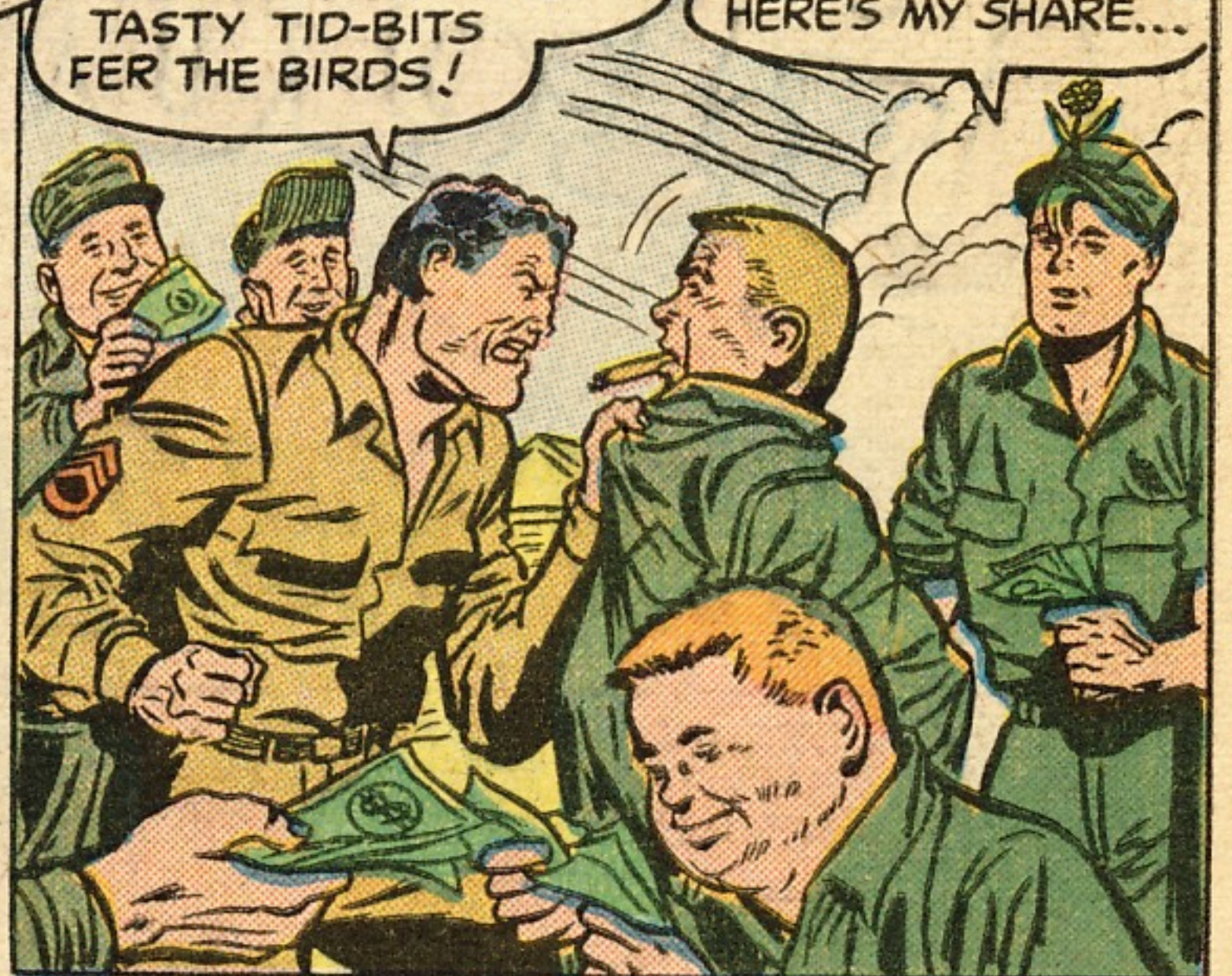


LOOK REILLY, THE WAY YOU OPERATE AIN'T EXACTLY NEWS! HOW MUCH **THIS** TIME-FER PROMOTIN' A PLUG?

I LIKE TO BE FAIR, SARGE... LET'S SAY FIVE HUNDRED BUCKS—AND TEN PERCENT OF THE PRIZE... —IF YA WIN!

IF WE WIN 3 FER FIVE HUNDRED SMACKERS, **WE WIN**, REILLY—OR I'M **PERSONALLY** CUTTIN' YA UP INTO TASTY TID-BITS FER THE BIRDS!

DIG DOWN, FELLERS! IF REILLY SAYS HE'LL GET US A HORSE, HE WILL! HERE'S MY SHARE...



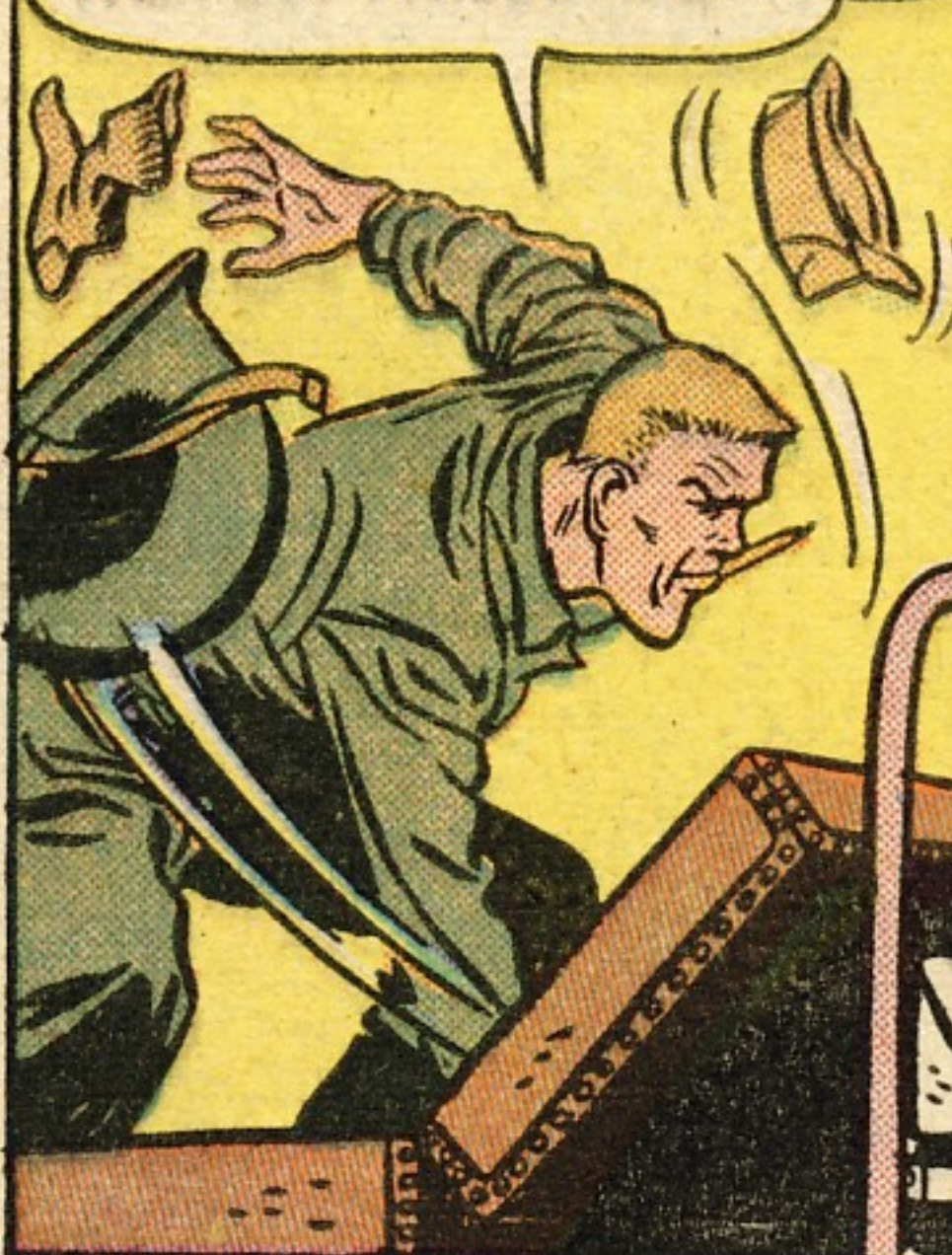
...FOUR EIGHTY...FOUR NINETY... FIVE HUNDRED!

YER CONFIDENCE IS GRATIFYIN', JOE! SOME O' THESE OTHER GUYS KEEP FER-GETTIN' I KIN PUT HAIR ON A CUE BALL AN' TAKE IT OFF A PEACH! EXPECT DELIVERY TO-MORROW, BOYS!



A LITTLE LATER...

I SEEN IT... I **KNOW** I SEEN IT! MY MEMORY AIN'T **NEVER** FAILED ME...



HERE IT IS! SWEETEST LITTLE TICKET TO A BUNDLE O'CASH I EVER CAME ACROSS!



MEANWHILE, IN COLONEL HAVERSFORD'S QUARTERS...

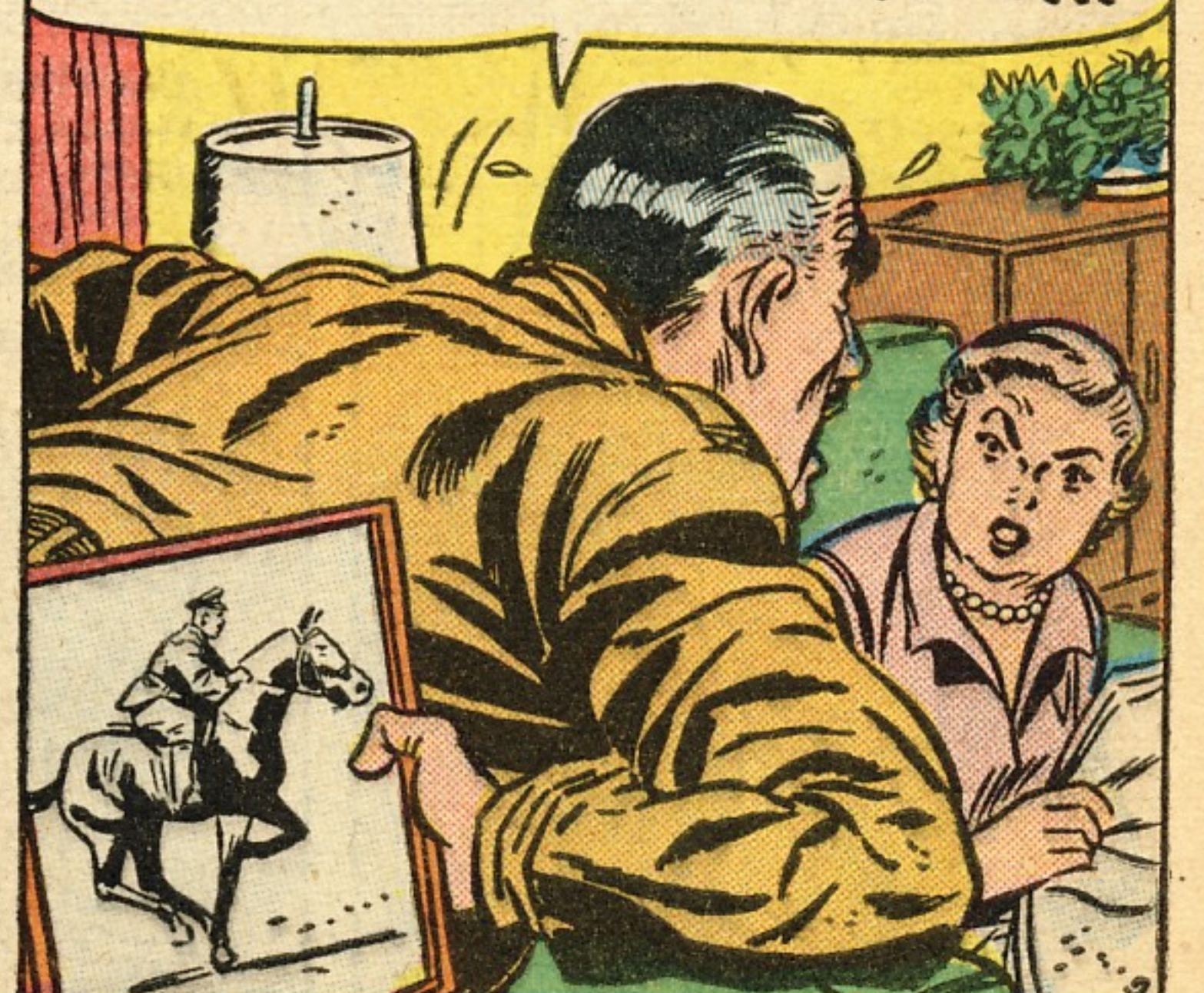
LULU-BELLE WITHSTOOD THE TRIP OUT FROM KENTUCKY BEAUTIFULLY, MY DEAR—AND SHE SEEMS TO LIKE HER NEW STABLE!

EGAD IT'S GOING TO BE A PLEASURE TO RIDE HER AGAIN! THESE CRISP MORNINGS ARE JUST RIGHT FOR--

GEORGE—DID YOU SEE THIS? THERE'S A TEN-THOUSAND-DOLLAR PRIZE OFFERED FOR A HORSE RACE! MAYBE WE SHOULD ENTER LULU-BELLE....



WHAT? ENTER MY MAGNIFICENT FIVE-GAITED MARE IN A **RACE**? HAVE YOU LOST YOUR **MIND**, MADGE? IT WOULD—WHY, IT WOULD **RUIN HER FOR LIFE!!!**



THAT NIGHT....



SAY, WITH ALL YER FANCY TRAININ' DIDN'T NOBODY TEACH YA TO WALK SOFT? PICK 'EM UP, WILL YA? I AIN'T IN THE ADVERTISIN' BUSINESS!

AND THE NEXT MORNING....



GOSH; FELLERS! WE CAN'T LOSE! LOOK AT HIS MUSCLES!

TH' HECK WITH HIS MUSCLES - LOOK AT HIS TEETH, SOMEBODY! THAT'S HOW YA TELL ABOUT A HORSE!

SO LONG, YOU GUYS... AN' DON'T FORGET MY TEN PERCENT WHEN YA COLLECT THE PRIZE!

WE GOTTA GET TAPES AN' BLINKERS AN' COLORS FOR HIM! AN A JOCKEY! THAT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL!



WHATCHA SEE, SARGE?

TEETH...

...NOTHIN' BUT TEETH! YOU'RE THE BEST ONE TO RIDE HIM, UGLY! YOU DON'T WEIGH MUCH!



ME? THE ONLY HORSE I EVER RODE WAS ON A MERRY-GO-ROUND...

...AN' I FELL OFF THAT!

I KNOW WHERE I CAN GET BANDAGES! Y'GOTTA DO THAT WITH RACE-HORSES! IT HELPS THEIR FEET!

WE'LL TEACH YOU TO RIDE UGLY! THERE'S NOTHIN' TO IT! ALL YOU GOTTA DO IS-- WE'LL GLUE YA IN THE SADDLE, OATIS, IF YER SCARED! WE AIN'T TAKIN' NO CHANCES WITH TEN THOUSAND BUCKS!



AND BEFORE LONG....

YA WEAR IT THIS WAY, OATIS! WHATSA MATTER, DON'T Y'EVEN KNOW HOW A JOCKEY'S SUPPOSED TO LOOK?

SARGE! I AIN'T CUT OUT FOR THIS!

I'M JUST ABOUT FINISHED WITH THIS LEG, JOE! HOW'RE YOU COMIN'?

I'M FIXIN' THE TAIL, WEEPY! IT'S GONNA LOOK SWELL!

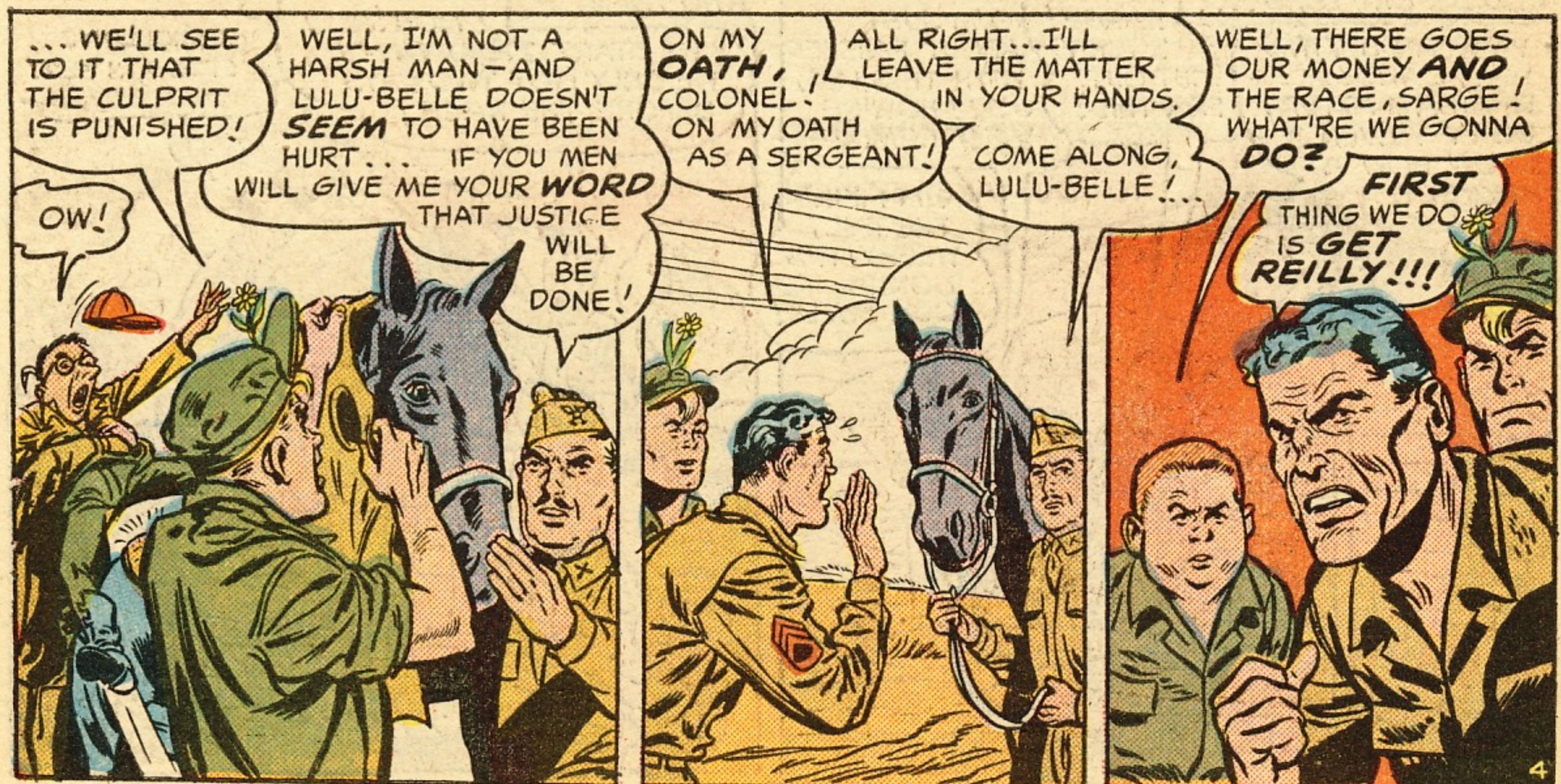
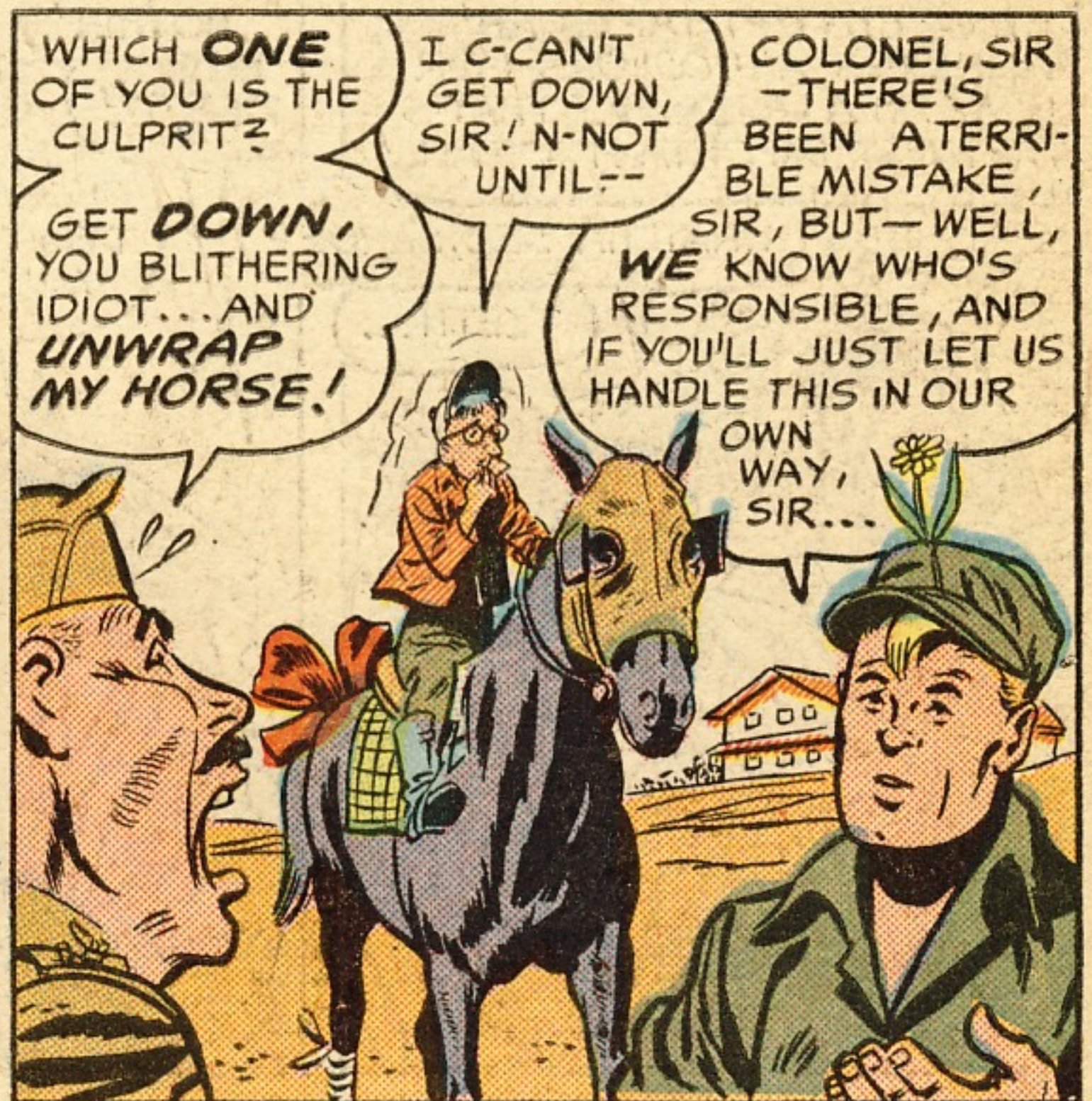
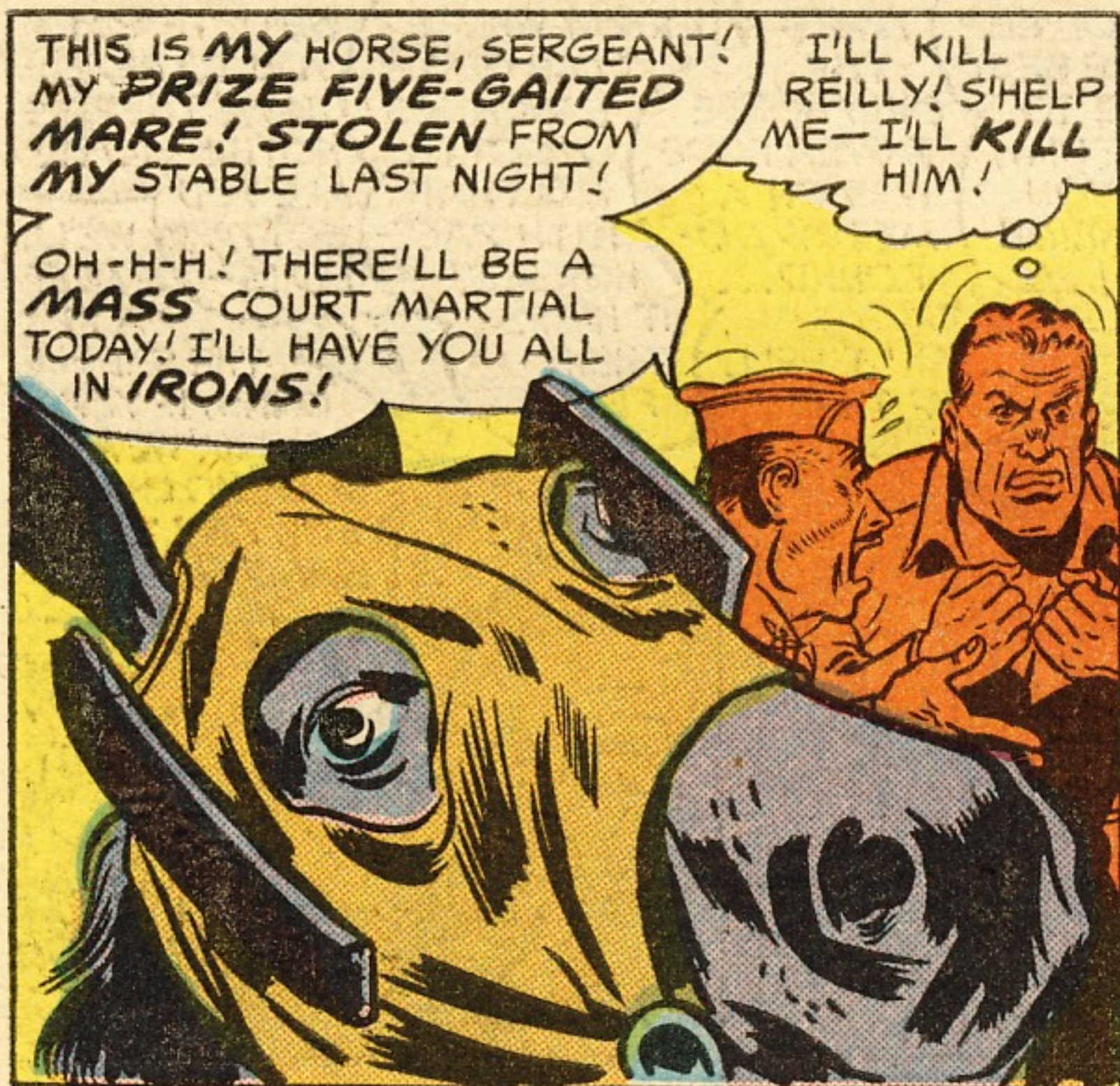


AND THEN....

C'MON! NOW WE START TRAININ'! WE ONLY GOT TWO DAYS BEFORE THE RACE!

I SHOULD'VE STOOD IN BED!





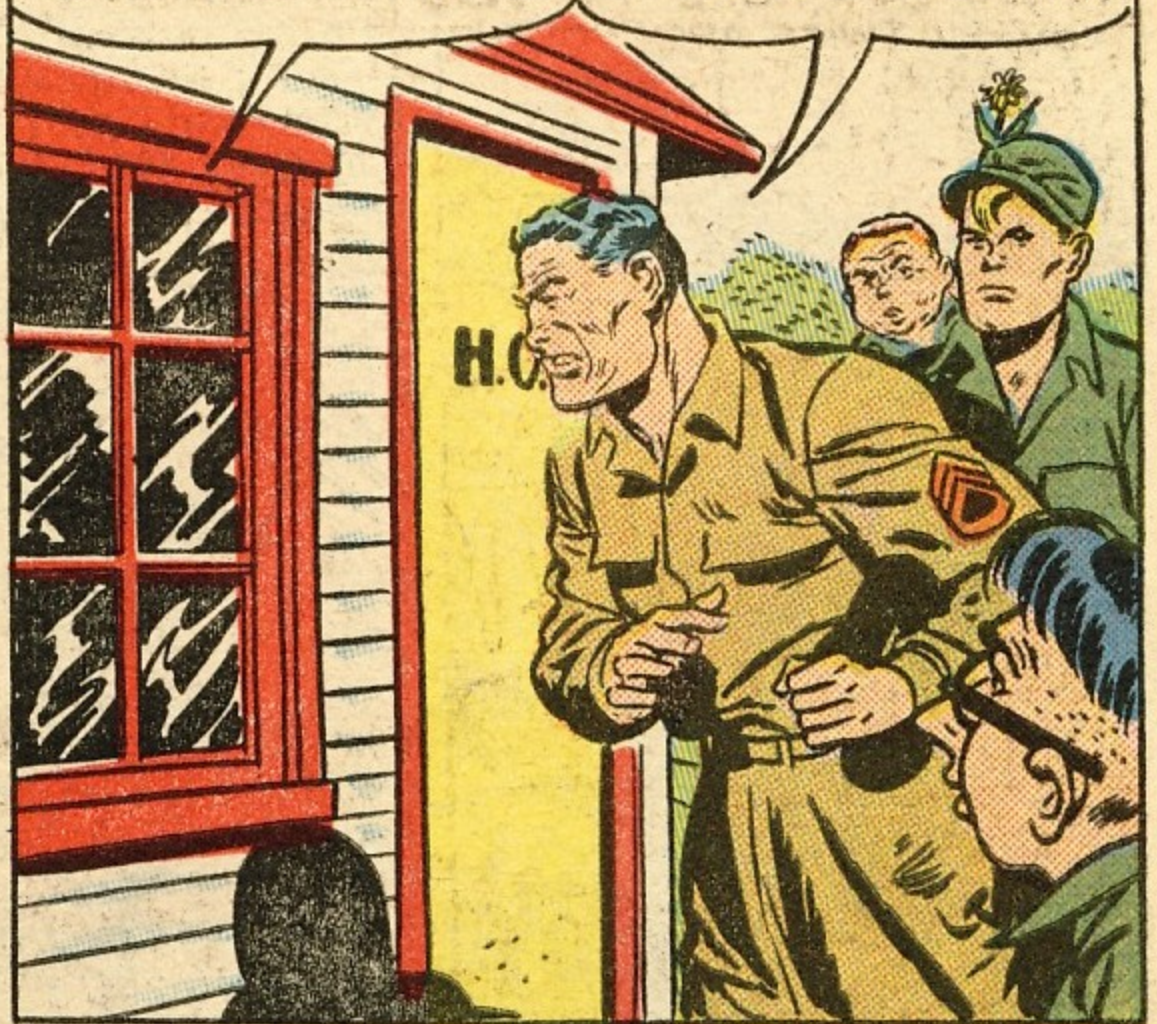
MEANWHILE AT HQ....

OH, NO, SIR! IT'S JUST THAT I FEEL LIKE I'VE KIND OF OUTLIVED MY USEFULNESS HERE! I THOUGHT IF YOU COULD MAYBE SEE YOUR WAY CLEAR TO...



...TRANSFERIN' ME TO GERMANY, OR SOME PLACE WHERE...

QUIET, YOU GUYS! IF I KNOW REILLY LIKE I *THINK* I KNOW 'IM!



...WHERE I COULD BE OF MORE REAL **SERVICE** TO MY COUNTRY...

YOU UNDERSTAND THIS REQUEST WILL TAKE TIME, PRIVATE REILLY! IT MUST GO THROUGH CHANNELS...

NOTHIN' LIKE THE CHANNEL **YOU'RE** GOIN' THROUGH, REILLY - SOON AS YA COME OUT THAT DOOR!



AND WHEN REILLY DID...

UMMMMPH!



B-BUT I **CAN'T** GIVE YOU BACK YER MONEY! I-I **SPENT** IT! I GOT **INVESTMENTS** I GOTTA PROTECT!

YOU FIGURE YER **NECK'S** ANY INVESTMENT, REILLY? EITHER WE GET BACK OUR DOUGH--OR WE GET A HORSE THAT'S GONNA **WIN THAT RACE!** IT'S UP TO YOU! TAKE YER PICK!



OKAY, SARGE! I-I'LL GET YOU GUYS A HORSE!



THE NEXT MORNING...

WHILE BACK AT "B" COMPANY...



馬か居
を操せよ



OKAY, SARGE—
THERE'S YER
PRIZE WINNER
LIKE I PROMISED
YOU! AN' DON'T
FORGET MY TEN
PERCENT!

LOOK AT HIS
TEETH, SARGE!
QUICK—WHILE
HE'S YAWNING!
TELL US IF
HE'S ANY
GOOD!



WELL, WHAT'CHA
SEE, SARGE, WHAT'CHA
SEE?

TEETH...



...ONLY
NOT TOO
MANY!

WE AIN'T GOT A
SADDLE THIS
TIME... BUT
HIS RIBS'LL
MAKE SWELL
STIRRUPS!

HURRY UP, UGLY!
GET IN YOUR
JOCKEY OUTFIT!
WE'VE ONLY GOT
TODAY TO TRAIN!

AND NOT MUCH LATER....



WELL, USE YER
WHIP, OATIS!
WHADDAYA
THINK IT'S
FOR? YOU'VE
BEEN SITTING THERE
FER TEN MINUTES!

I AIN'T
SITTIN',
SARGE! I
THINK I'M
STANDIN'!

IS THAT UGLY
WHO KEEPS
SIGHIN', JOE—
OR THE
HORSE?



COME ON YOU--
OOPS! HE'S
MOVIN'!

THWACK!



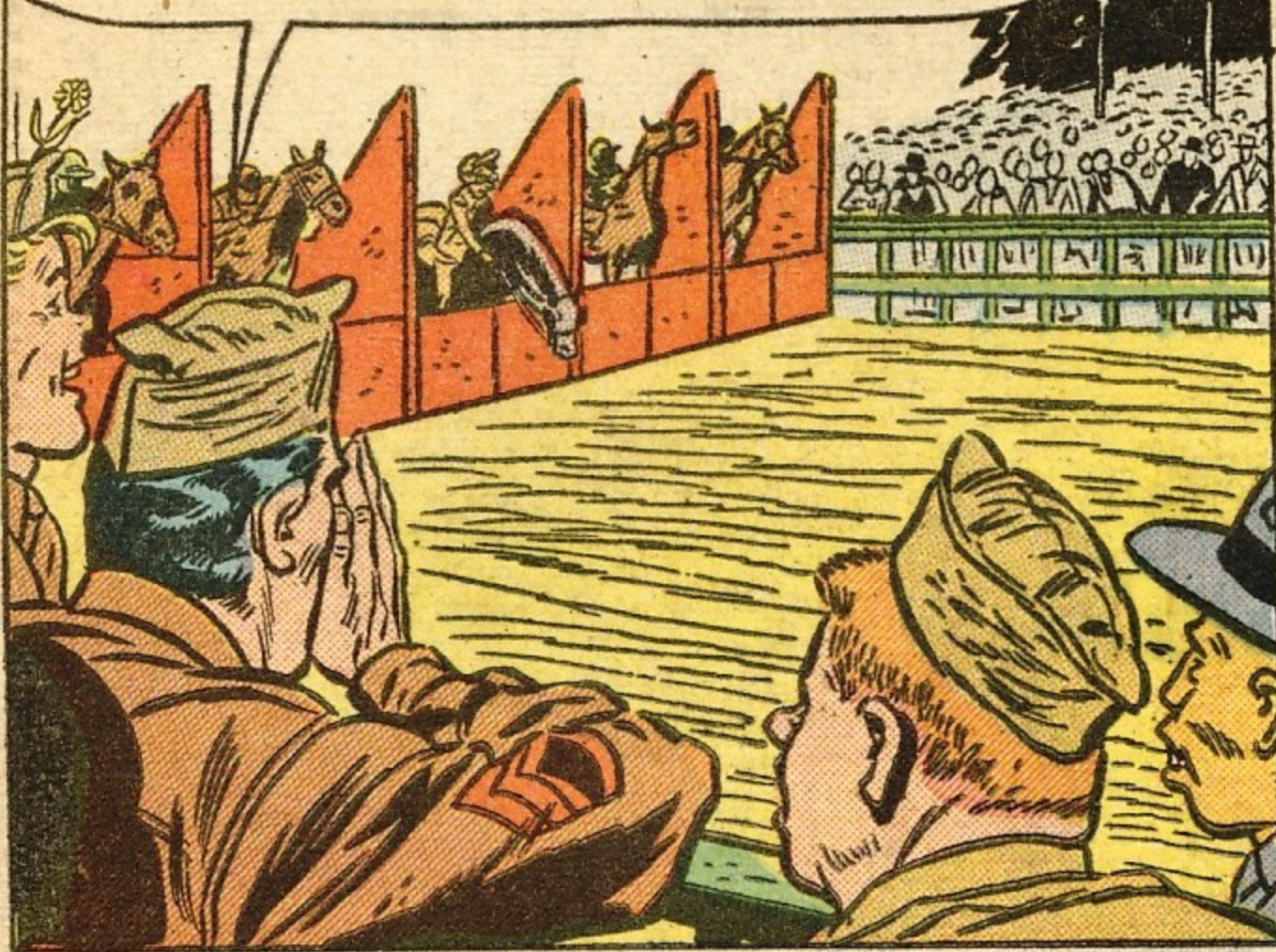
BUT...

FER THE LUVVA PETE, CATCH
THAT NAG... AN' SOMEBODY
GET THAT GLUE!

THE DAY OF THE BIG RACE

REMEMBER EVERYTHIN'

I TOLD YA, OATIS! HOLD 'IM IN TILL THE TURN — THEN GIVE 'IM ALL YOU GOT IN THE STRETCH!



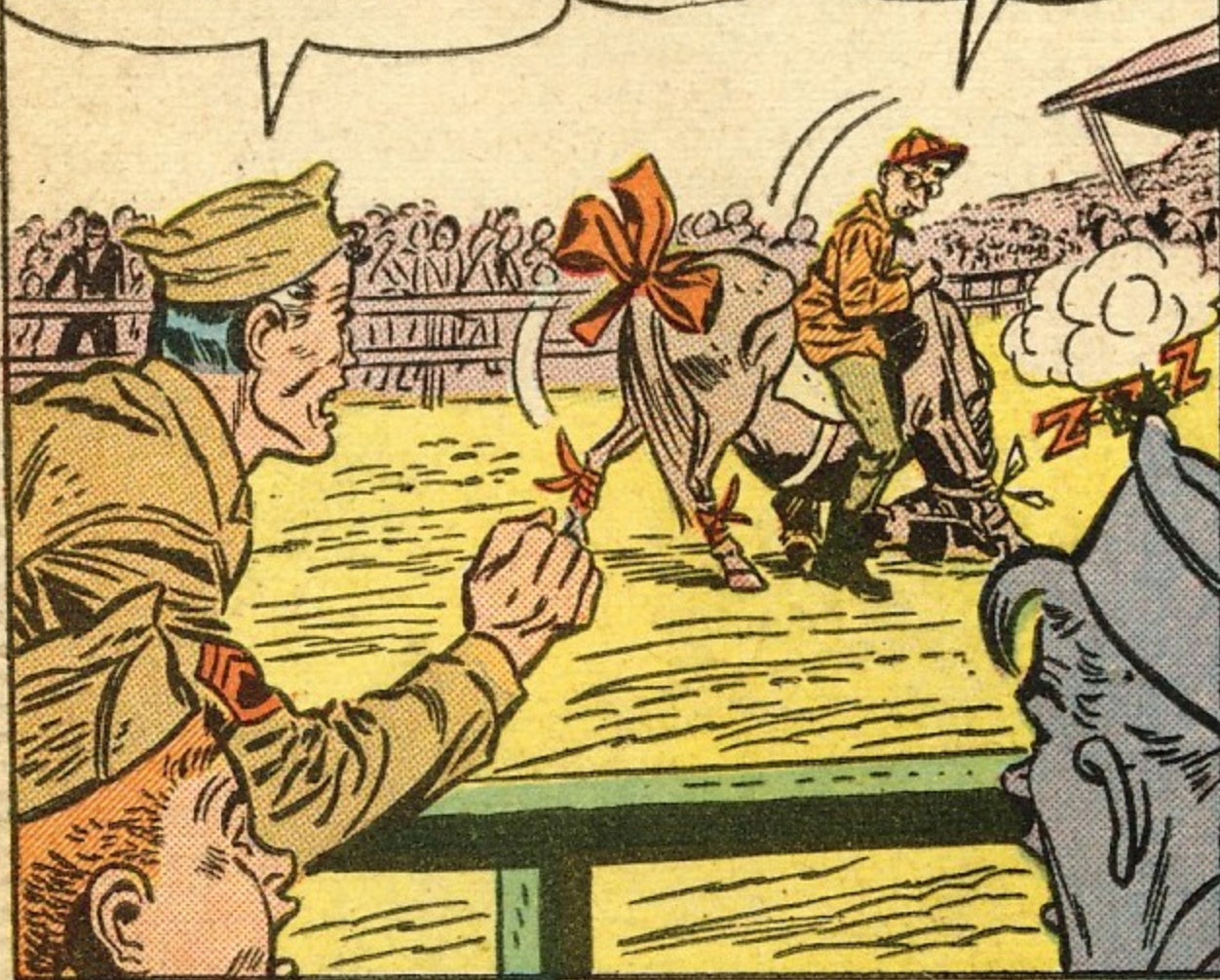
I SPOTTED REILLY IN THE CROWD, JOE! HE'S NOT TAKIN' ANY CHANCES WITH HIS TEN PERCENT!

THERE'S THE GUN, WEEPY! THEY'RE OFF!



WHATS A MATTER WITH YA, OATIS? I TOLD YA HOW TO GET 'IM STARTED!

I THINK HE'S ASLEEP!



YOU SAID YOU SPOTTED REILLY, WEEPY! OKAY — JUST SHOW ME WHERE!

HE WAS OVER BY THE RICKSHAWS...

THERE HE IS!



AND A FEW SECONDS LATER...

FELLERS — NO! Y'CAN'T DO THIS TO ME! NO! NO! Y'CAN'T!!!

AND SO...

SHUCKS! I NEVER HAD A CHANCE TO LOOK AT HIS TEETH!

THAT'S OKAY, SARGE! REMEMBER — YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO LOOK A GIFT HORSE IN THE MOUTH!



The End

1000

LIVE BABY TURTLES

GIVEN AWAY

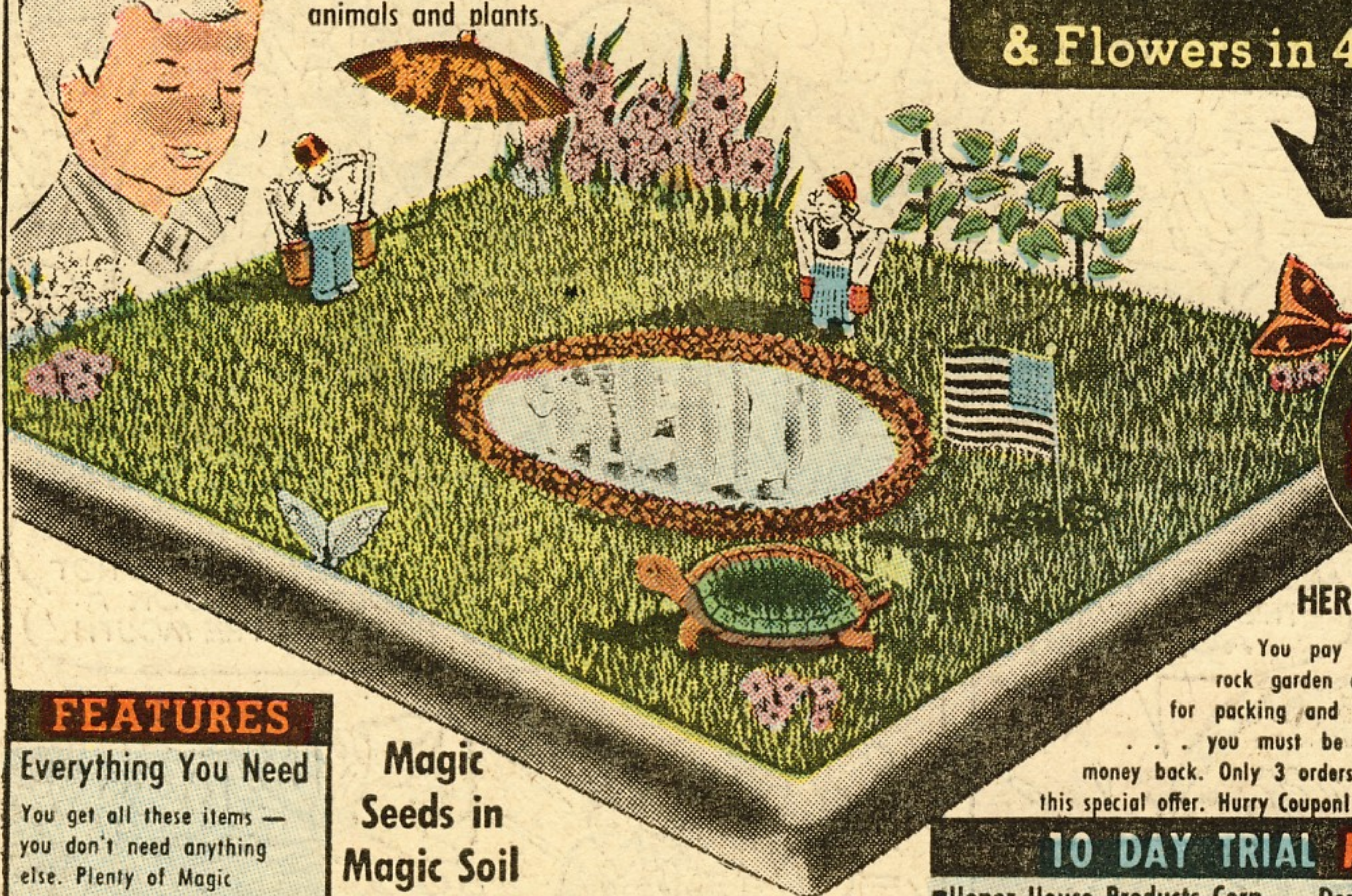
WITH THIS OFFER



EVERY BOY AND GIRL LOVES THESE CLEAN LITTLE PETS. DELIVERED HEALTHY AND SAFE IN A SPECIAL MOSS-PROTECTED PACKAGE.

Here's one of the most exciting toys you've ever owned. Just think — a baby turtle all your own. What's more, a real growing garden to keep him in, a garden you plant and grow all by yourself. You can teach him to recognize you when you feed him. Watch him swim — see how he pulls his head and feet into his shell when he's frightened. You can have turtle races — you can make a little house for him to live in — and all

the time you can watch how the lovely, soft grass grows — see and smell the beautiful flowers. You'll amaze your friends with how much you know about animals and plants.



FEATURES

Everything You Need

You get all these items — you don't need anything else. Plenty of Magic grass seeds . . . Magic soil, lovely flower seeds . . . Practical attractive container . . . Bright-colored metal butterfly . . . American Flag . . . Parasol that opens and closes . . . Simulated rocks. Plant food. Many other exciting features.

Magic Seeds in Magic Soil

A real growing Rock Garden — about 100 square inches of sweet grass and bright lovely flowers — for you to care for. When the flowers grow you can pluck a bouquet for your mother or friend. When the grass grows too high you will have to cut and trim it. And all the time you will have a beautiful garden you can be

proud of and show off to your friends. You'll learn many useful things, too — it will even help you understand many things they teach at school.

MAGIC
ROCK GARDEN
Grows Real Grass
& Flowers in 4 Days

only
\$1.69

HERE'S OUR OFFER

You pay only \$1.00 for the rock garden and turtle plus 25¢ for packing and mailing . . . AND . . . you must be 100% delighted or money back. Only 3 orders to a customer with this special offer. Hurry Coupon!

10 DAY TRIAL FREE!

Honor House Products Corp. Dept 361-G
35 Wilbur ST. Lynbrook, N.Y.

Rush my Rock Garden and live baby turtle at once. If I am not completely satisfied I may return the garden for prompt refund of the full purchase price, and I may keep the turtle ABSOLUTELY FREE. Price is \$1.00 plus 25¢ for postage and handling.

- ☐ Enclosed find \$_____ in full payment.
☐ Send C.O.D. I'll pay postman, plus C.O.D. fee on delivery.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

G.I. JOKEs

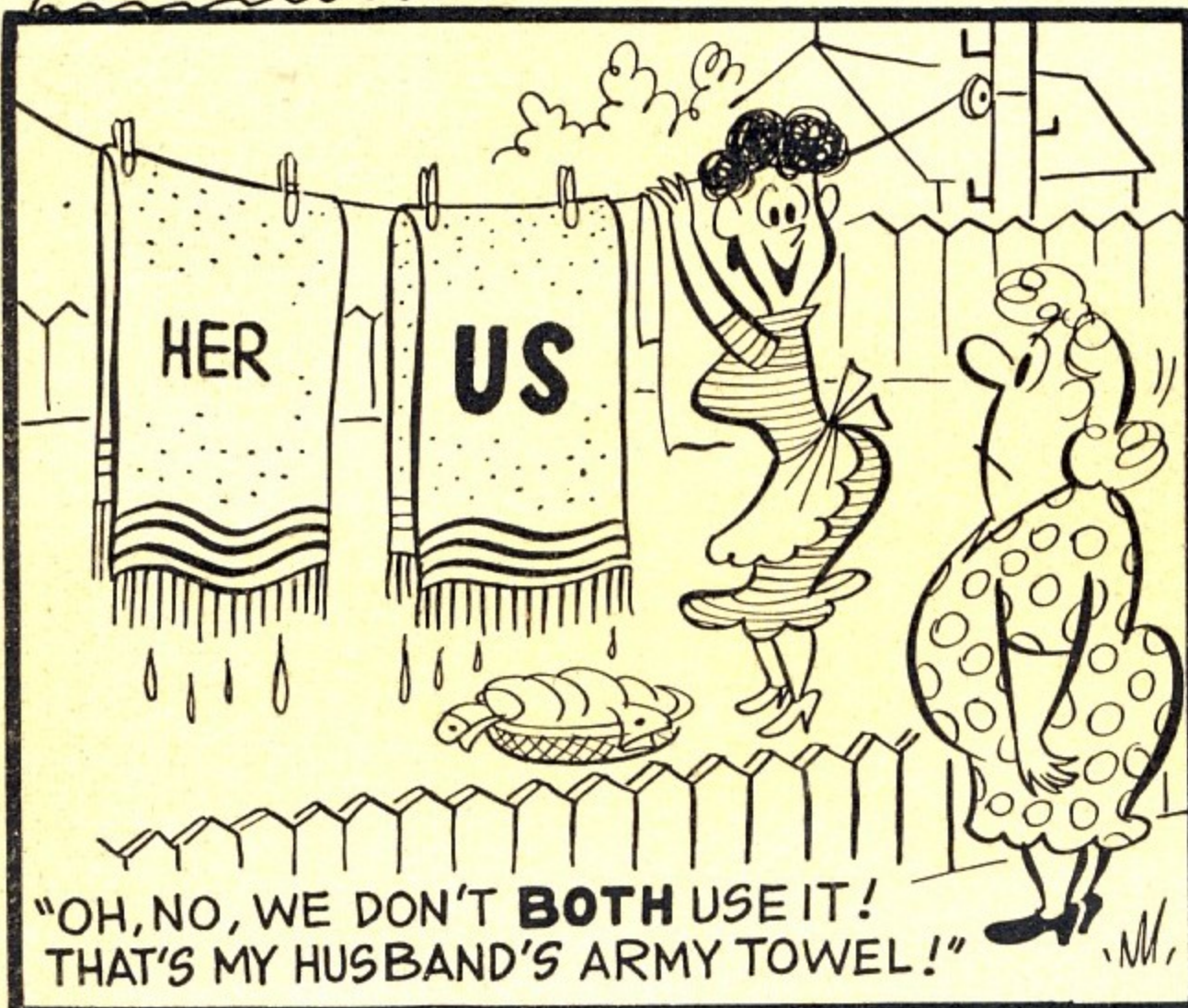
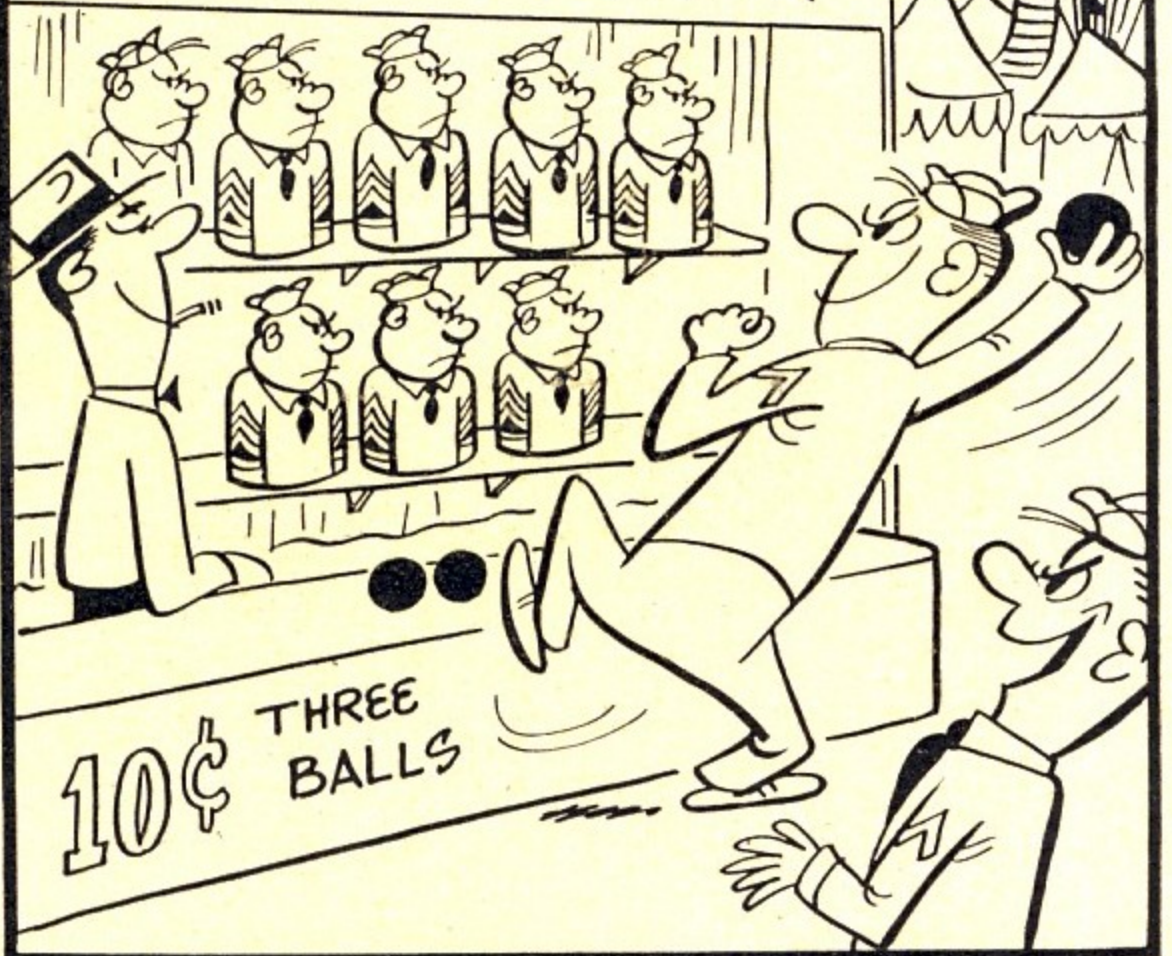


ARMY HOSPITAL



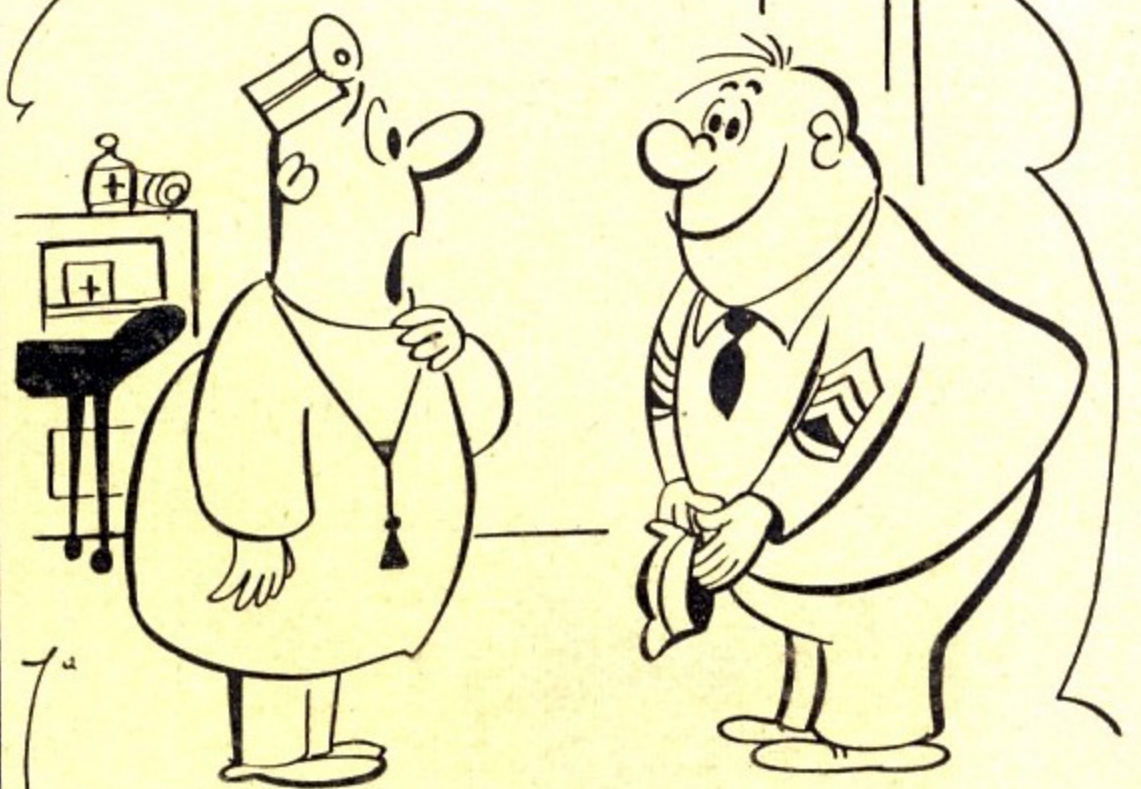
"DOOLITTLE'S READY TO GO BACK TO DUTY, SIR — I HAD TO SLAP HIS FACE THREE TIMES THIS MORNING!"

AMUSEMENT PARK

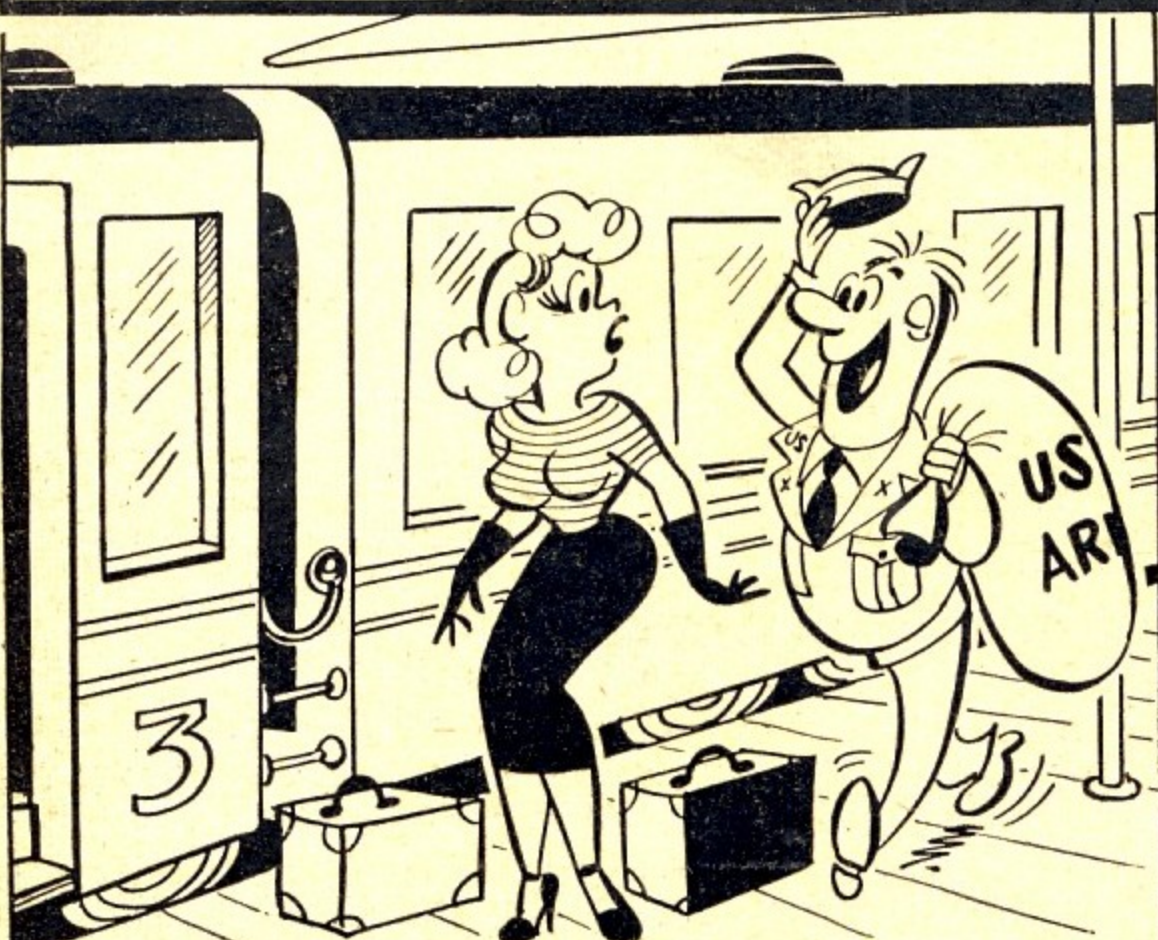


"OH, NO, WE DON'T **BOTH** USE IT! THAT'S MY HUSBAND'S ARMY TOWEL!"

ARMY HOSPITAL



"YES, SERGEANT — SOMETHING **MUST** BE WRONG WITH YOU! YOU'RE **SMILING!**"



"I BEG YOUR PARDON, MISS. MIND IF I KISS YOU GOOD-BYE?"



3:00



hands tied?

... because you lack
a High School
diploma?

**LOOK
at what
our former
students say!**

"The knowledge I gained from the study of your high school course has helped me greatly. Education by correspondence gives one an opportunity to study in privacy. It is particularly suitable for those whose time is limited."

John McHugh
New York, N. Y.

"I wish to express my appreciation to all my instructors for the help and courtesy shown me. I can recommend the American School to anyone who wishes a high school education, but especially to boys and girls living on farms."

Mrs. Thelma Bowers
Livingston, Tenn.

"The thing I liked best about studying by correspondence was the fact that I, being a housewife, could work on my studies when I found time after I had finished my work around the house."

Mrs. Christina Poole
Galesburg, Illinois

"Another thing I liked about the American School is that I was able to suit my payments to my budget. This helped me very much."

Mrs. Eleanor M. Costales
Albuquerque, N. Mex.

**YOU CAN GET A
High School
education
AT HOME FOR
ONLY \$6⁰⁰ A MONTH!**

Now there's no longer any need for your hands being tied—for your being held back from getting many of the things you want most in life—simply because you don't have that all important high school diploma. It's so simple for you to get a high school education at home, thanks to the world famous American School.

It costs you only \$6.00 a month, which includes all books and all instruction. That's only 20 cents a day! Yet it gives you benefits so priceless they cannot be measured in money!

Study at Your Convenience

There are no classes for you to attend. You study in your spare time, in your own home. Yet, wherever you are, you get individual instruction from experienced teachers who take a personal interest in you. Thanks to American School's remarkable home study plan, you progress rapidly . . . and go ahead as fast as your time and abilities permit. You take up your education where you left off and receive full credit for subjects you have already completed. And you can choose a full high school course or any one of a hundred different academic, commercial and technical subjects.

Want a Better Job, Bigger Pay?

You may find that this high school at home plan will lead to bigger things for you, as it has already done for so many grateful American School graduates. It can do even more than help you earn more money and recapture lost opportunities. It can help you enjoy many of the things you now miss in life . . . win a more highly respected place in your community . . . go on to college. American School graduates have been admitted to over 500 different colleges and universities. Many of them testify that the School's training has helped them pass college entrance examinations, make higher grades in college and win scholarships. Its work for over 50 years has been praised by leading educators. Why go on through life any longer with tied hands when you may free yourself and forge ahead by getting a high school education this convenient, low-cost way?

FREE SAMPLE LESSON!

Mail coupon today for an interesting FREE sample lesson that reveals how pleasant and profitable it can be for you to get a high school education at home. Prove to yourself that you, too, may get the priceless benefits it gives, simply by studying at home, at your own convenience. You owe it to yourself to send for this FREE sample lesson TODAY! There is no obligation.

American School

400 MADISON AVE., NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

**Mail coupon today for
FREE sample lesson**

American School, Dept. AS-3

400 Madison Ave., New York 17, N. Y.

Gentlemen: Please rush me, without cost or obligation, an interesting FREE sample lesson that reveals how pleasant and profitable it can be for me to get a high school education in my spare time at home.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Zone _____

State _____